Shaman King
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Hiroyuki Takei
volume
27

I switched to contact lenses.

—*Hiroyuki Takei*

Unconventional author/artist Hiroyuki Takei began his career by winning the coveted Hop Step Award (for new manga artists) and the Osamu Tezuka Award (named after the famous artist of the same name). After working as an assistant to famed artist Nobuhiro Watsuki, Takei debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1997 with **Butsu Zone**, an action series based on Buddhist mythology. His multicultural adventure manga **Shaman King**, which debuted in 1998, became a hit and was adapted into an anime TV series. Takei lists Osamu Tezuka, American comics and robot anime among his many influences.

SHAMAN KING VOL. 27
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
HIROYUKI TAKEI

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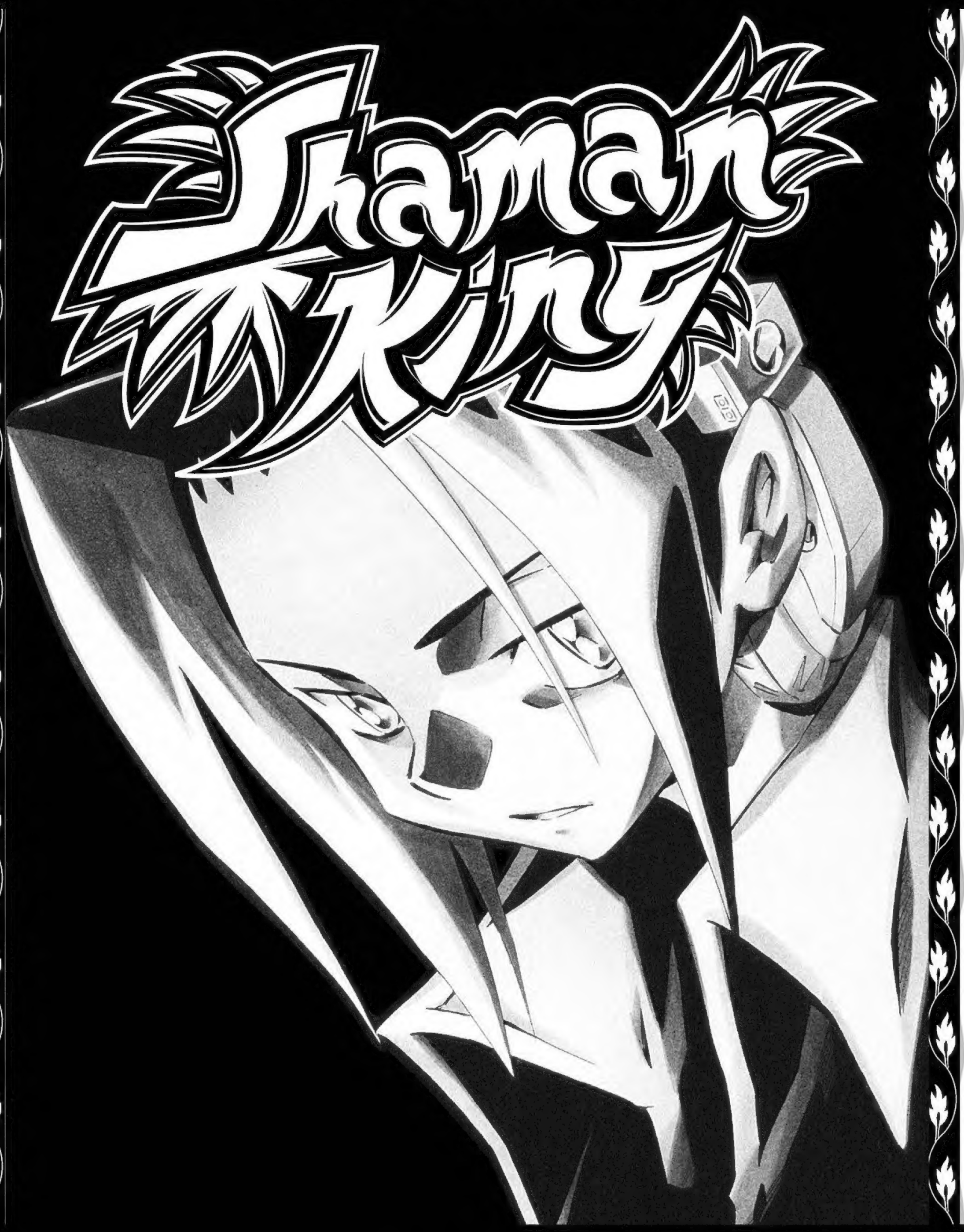
SHONEN JUMP MANGA

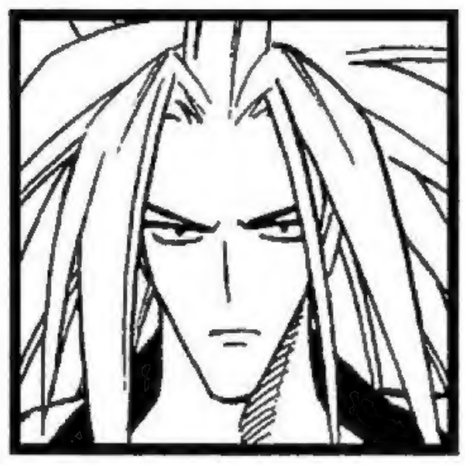
Shaman King



VOL. 27
EXOTICA

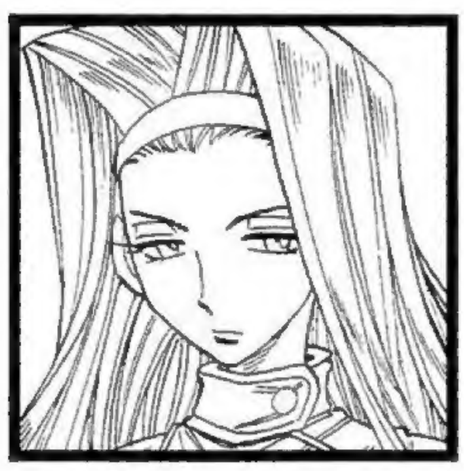
STORY AND ART BY
HIROYUKI TAKEI

CHARACTERS



Amidamaru
"The Fiend" Amidamaru was, in life, a samurai of such skill and ferocity that he was a veritable one-man army. Now he is Yoh's loyal, and formidable, spirit ally.

Tokagero
The ghost of a bandit slain by Amidamaru. He is now Ryu's spirit ally.



Eliza
Faust's late wife.

Zenki & Goki
Spirits who formerly served Hao but now serve Anna.

Ponchi & Konchi
Tamao's spirit allies. Not known for their genteel ways.

Matamune
A split-tailed cat who helped Yoh save Anna from her own powers.

Yoh Asakura
Outwardly carefree and easygoing, Yoh bears a great responsibility as heir to a long line of Japanese shamans.

"Wooden Sword" Ryu
On a quest to find his Happy Place. Along the way, he became a shaman.

Faust VIII
A creepy German doctor and necromancer who is now Yoh's ally.

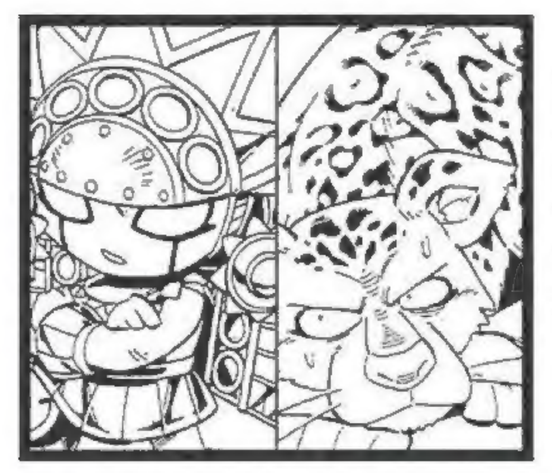
Anna Kyoyama
Yoh's butt-kicking fiancée. Anna is an itako, a traditional Japanese village shaman.

Tamao Tamamura
A shaman in training who uses a kokkuri board. She's in love with Yoh.

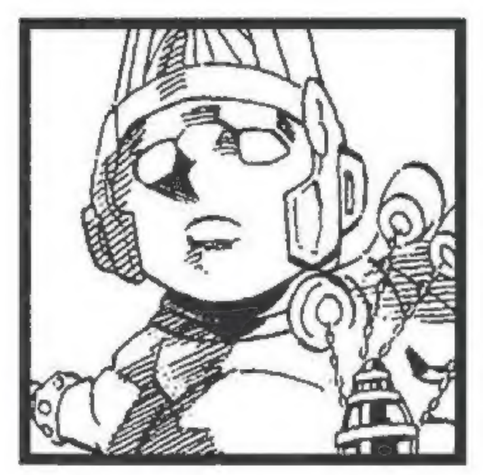
Manta Oyamada
A high-strung boy with a huge dictionary. He has enough sixth sense to see ghosts, but not enough to control them.

Bason
Ren's spirit ally is the ghost of a fearsome warlord from ancient China.

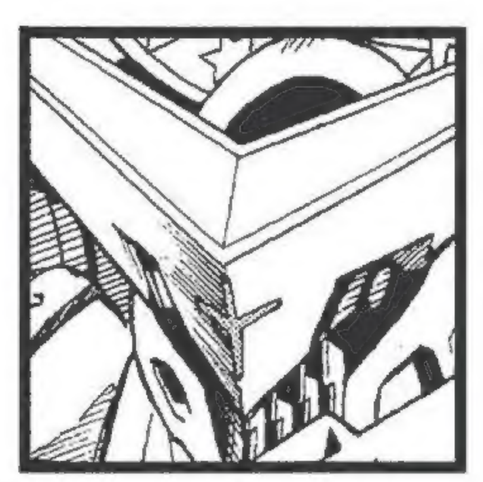
Kororo
Horohoro's spirit ally is one of the little nature spirits that the Ainu call Koropokkur.



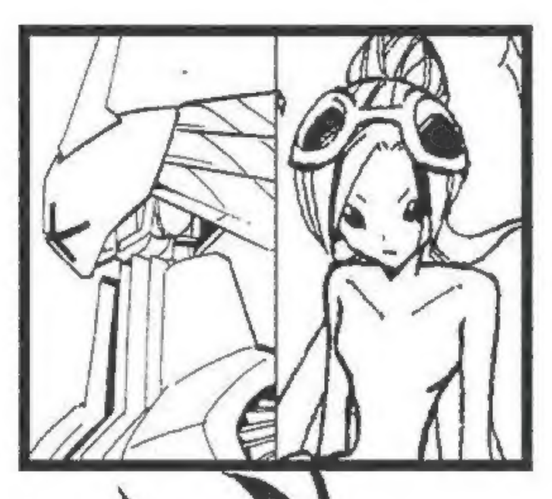
Mic & Pascual Abaj
Joco's jaguar spirit ally and the ghost of an Indio shaman.



Shamash
Jeanne's spirit ally, a Babylonian god.



Michael
Marco's Archangel.



Morphea & Zeruel
Lyserg's poppy fairy and his new Angel.

Kadu
A member of Gandala with Ragaraja.

Tao Ren
A powerful shaman and the scion of the ruthless Tao Family.

Horohoro
An Ainu shaman whose Over Soul looks like a snowboard.

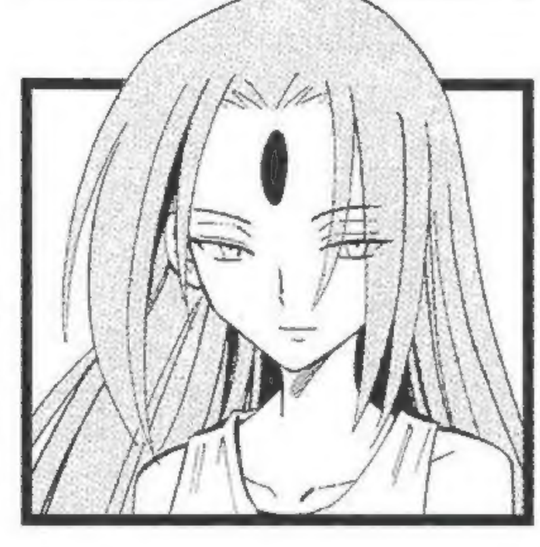
Joco
A shaman who uses humor as a weapon. Or tries to.

Jeanne, the Iron Maiden
The nominal leader of the X-LAWS. Spends most of her time in a medieval torture cabinet.

Marco
The true leader of the X-LAWS.

Lyserg
A young shaman with a vendetta against Hao.

Sati
The leader of Gandala. She brought Ryu and Joco back from the dead.

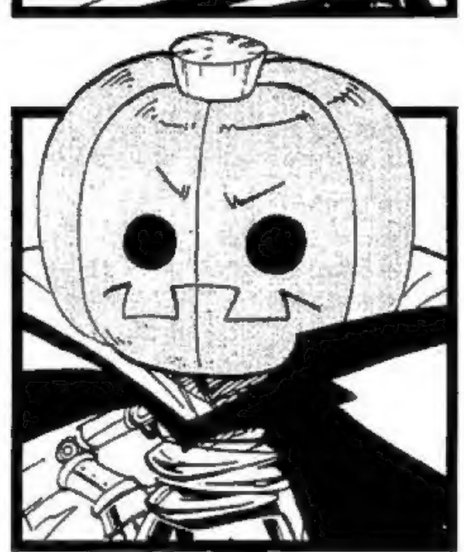


Yainage
A member of Gandala with Kundali.

Spirit of Fire
One of the five High Spirits that belonged to the Patch.

Lucifer
The first Angel, controlled by Luchist.

Ashcroft
Canna's spirit, an aged knight who seems chivalrous but actually has a foul mouth and a worse temper.



Jack
Mattie's pumpkin doll, which uses knives as weapons.

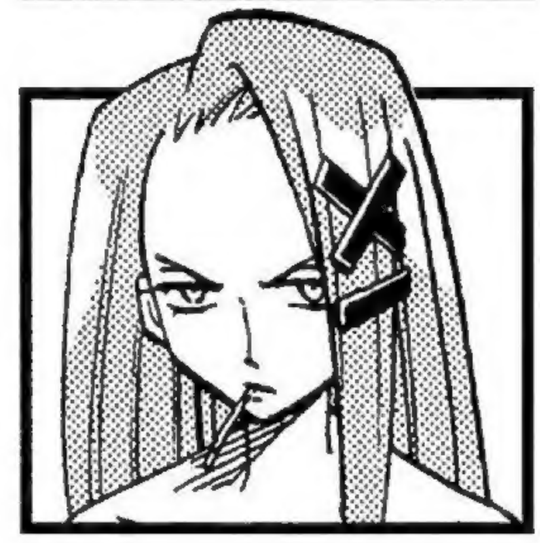
Chuck
Marie's cowboy gunslinger doll.

Peyote
Formerly with Tsuchi-gumi. He was defeated by Team Ren but continues to work for Hao.

Jackson
A member of Gandala with Acala.

Hao
An enigmatic figure who calls himself the "Future King."

Luchist
The founder of the X-LAWS who now wants to destroy them for his master, Hao.



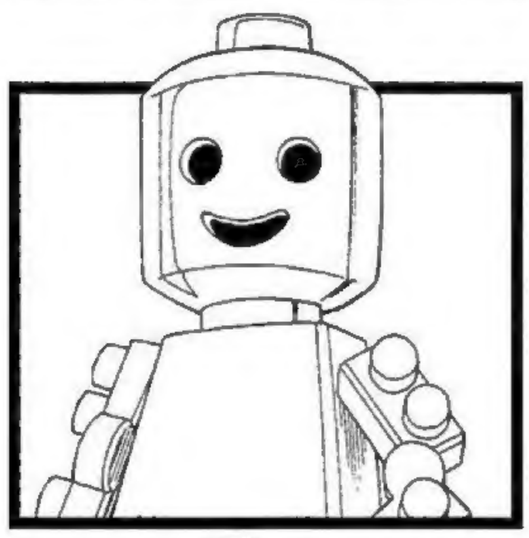
Canna Bismarck
A member of Hana-gumi, one of Hao's teams.

Mathilda
Nicknamed "Mattie," she's a druid with Hana-gumi.

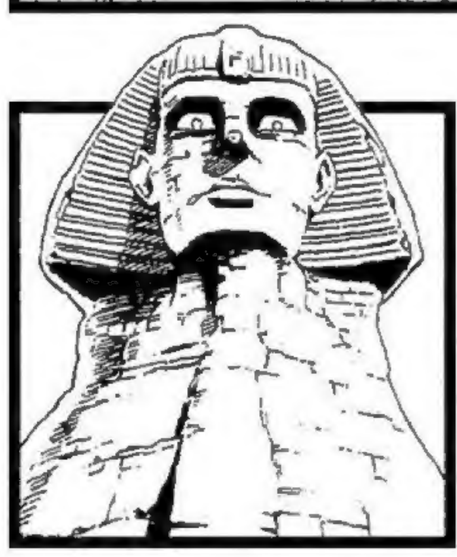
Marion Fauna
Nicknamed "Marie," she's a quiet doll-master with Hana-gumi.

Opacho
Hao's devoted minion who has the power to see the future.

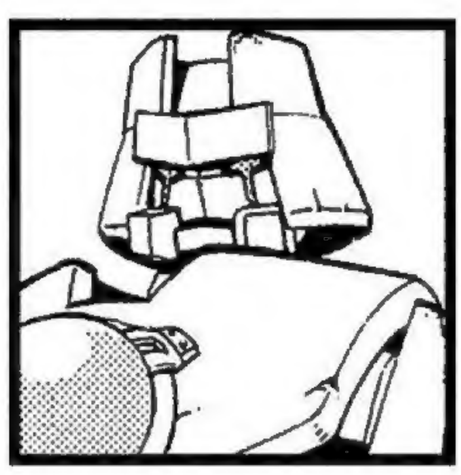
Turbine
A minion of Hao's who hides his face behind a turban and a veil.



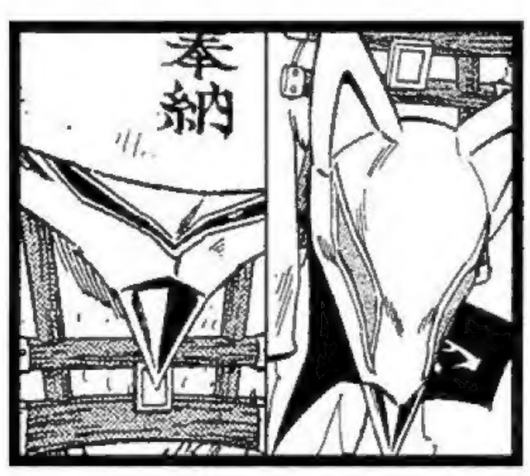
Blocken
A minion of Hao's whose body is made of toy building blocks.



Sphinx
Anahol's flying spirit ally.

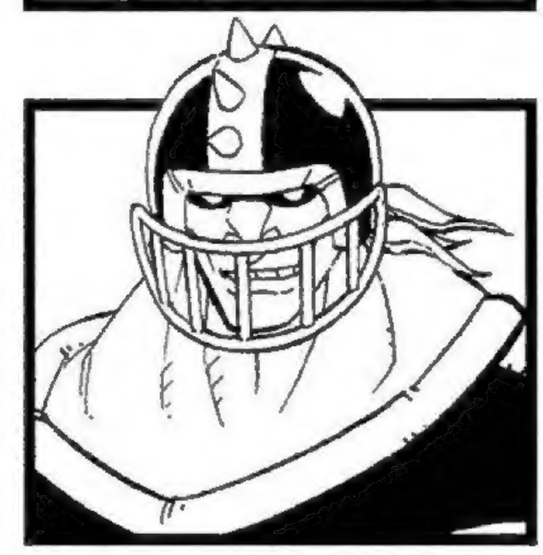


Golem
A robotic creature constructed by Dr. Munzer, Salerm and Ludsev's father.



Shigaraki & Imari
Mickey's shape-shifting mountain spirit allies whom he also used for transportation.

Zang Ching
A minion of Hao's whose spirit ally is a panda ghost called Xiong Xiong.



Big Guy Bill
Hao's minion, a football player whose spirit allies are his 21 former teammates.

Anahol
A minion of Hao's whose brother, Anatel, was killed by the X-LAWS.

Salerm & Ludsev
A brother and sister who own the Golem.

Mickey Asakura
Yoh's father. He wears a tengu mask.

THE STORY THUS FAR

Yoh Asakura not only sees dead people, he talks and fights with them too. That's because Yoh is a shaman, a traditional holy man able to interact with the spirit world. Yoh is now a competitor in the Shaman Fight, a tournament held every 500 years to decide who will become the Shaman King and shape humanity's future.

The twists and turns mount as Yoh leaves and then reenters the Shaman Fight, and Hao and his minions attack the other competitors both in and out of the arena. Meanwhile, an unauthorized attack on Hao ends in disaster for some X-LAWS, and Sati, the leader of Gandala, sends Yoh to Hell!

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EXOTICA

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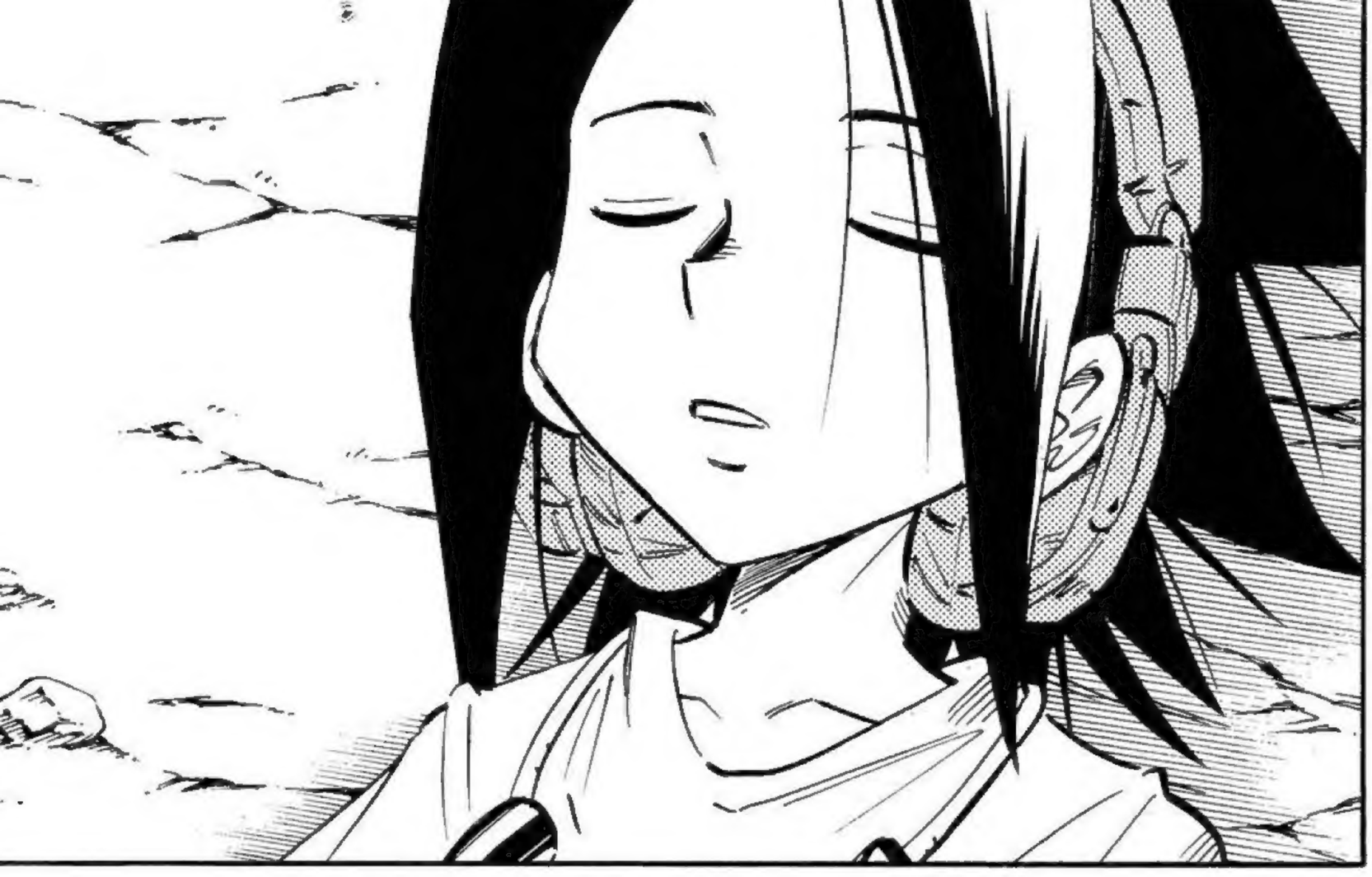
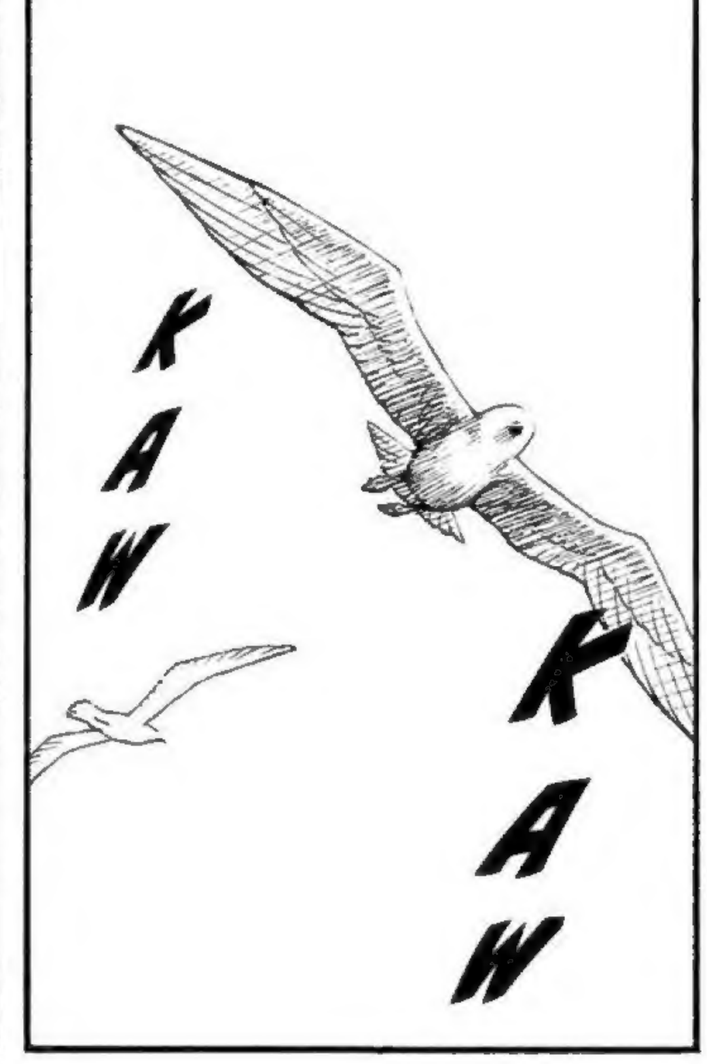
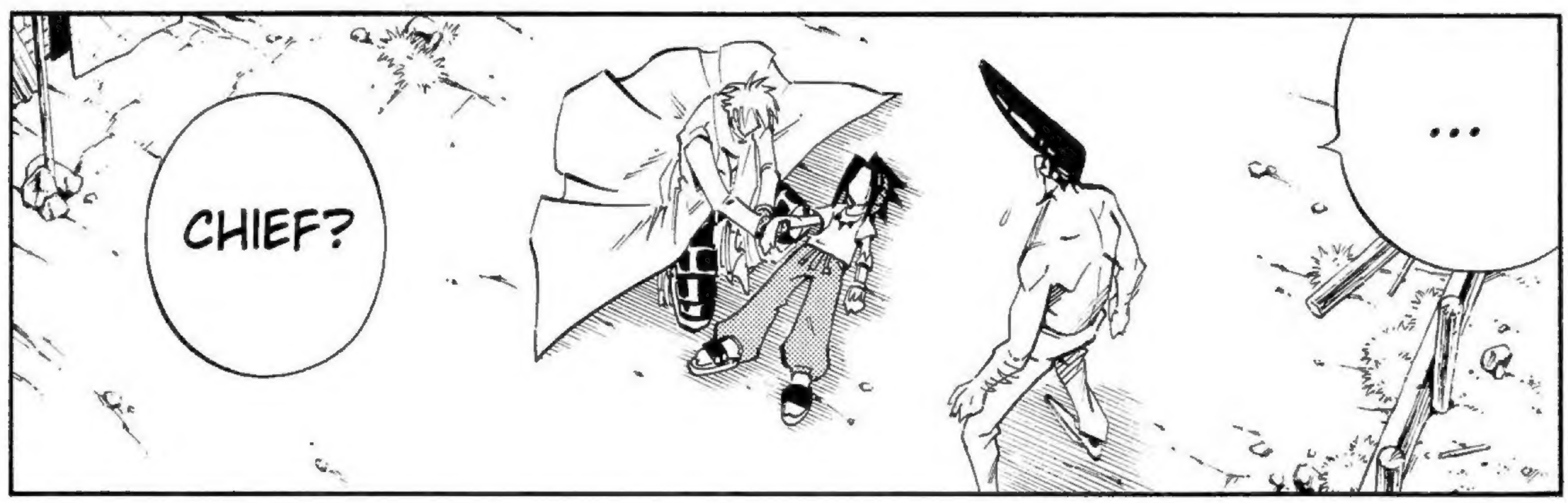
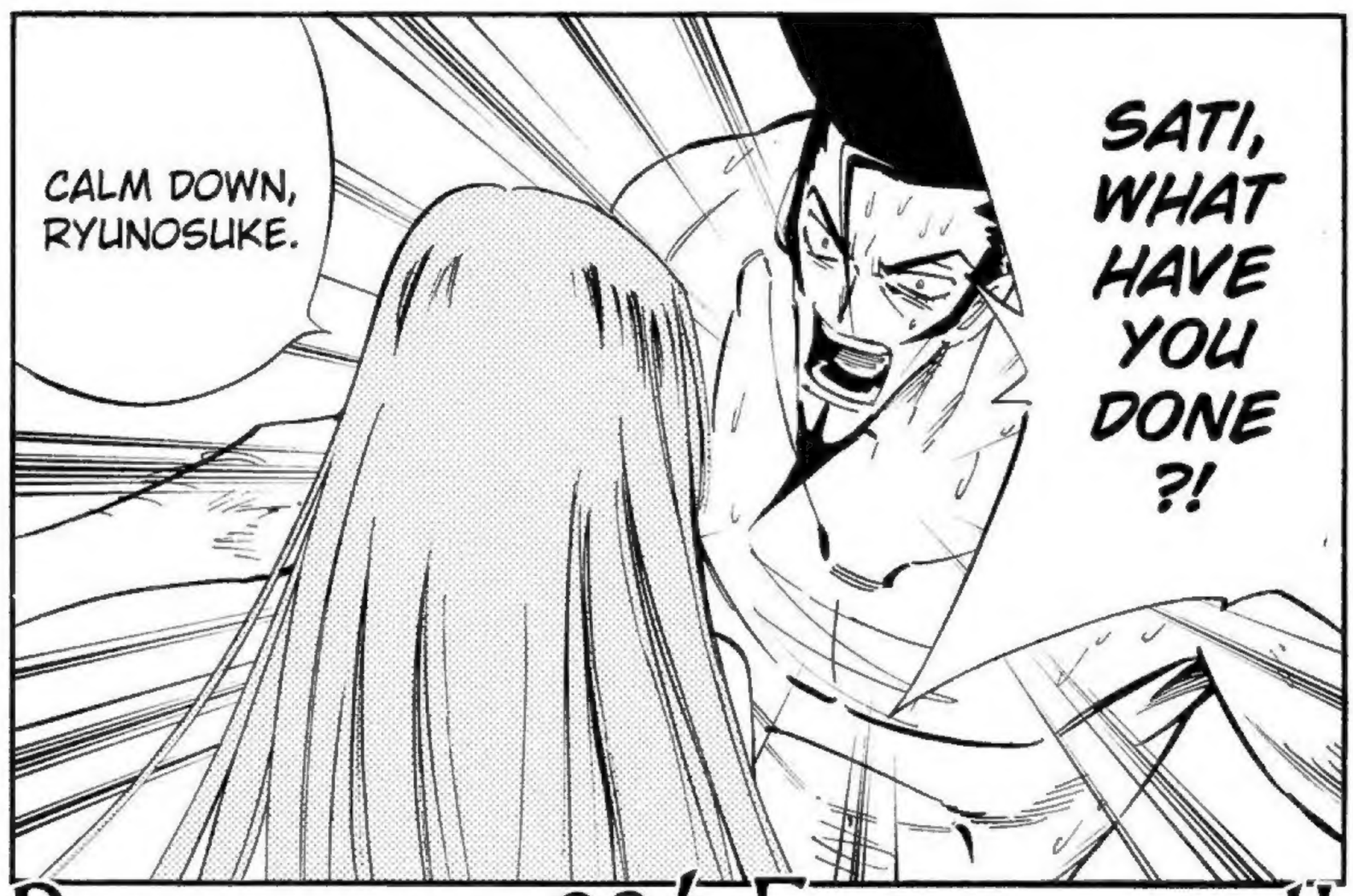








Reincarnation 234: Encounters in Hell

... BECAUSE WE CANNOT STOP HAO WITHOUT HIS HELP.
I SENT HIM THERE ...

...TO BECOME ONE OF THE FIVE WARRIORS. IN HELL HE WILL GAIN THE ABILITY TO CONTROL THE FIVE HIGH SPIRITS.
YOH HAS GONE ...

Reincarnation 234: Encounters in Hell

...TO HELL.
THE GATE ...
地獄門
THIS IS HELL?
WOOO
WOOOOO
...
YOU'RE HERE TOO, AMIDAMARU ?
I GUESS THIS IS WHERE JOCO WAS.
LORD JOCO?
YOU DON'T SEEM VERY DISTRESSED.
DID I GET KILLED?
FOOM

NO BIG DEAL, RIGHT?

HELL IS ONE OF THE COMMUNES INSIDE THE GREAT SPIRIT.

YEAH. HE WENT TO HELL WHEN HE DIED TOO.

SHE CAN BRING ME BACK TO LIFE.

SATI WOULDN'T HAVE KILLED ME WITHOUT A GOOD REASON.

AND HELL IS A SERIOUS MATTER!

BUT YOU'RE DEAD!

SHE SENT US HERE FOR A REASON, AMIDAMARU.

AND SHE SENT US BOTH TO THE SAME PLACE. IT MUST'VE BEEN THAT SUTRA SHE CHANTED.

...WHY DID SHE SEND US HERE?

BUT ...

IT'S NOT FUNNY!

...IF SHE CAN SEND PEOPLE TO THE AFTERLIFE SO EASILY. SO WHY WOULD SHE BOTHER WITH US?

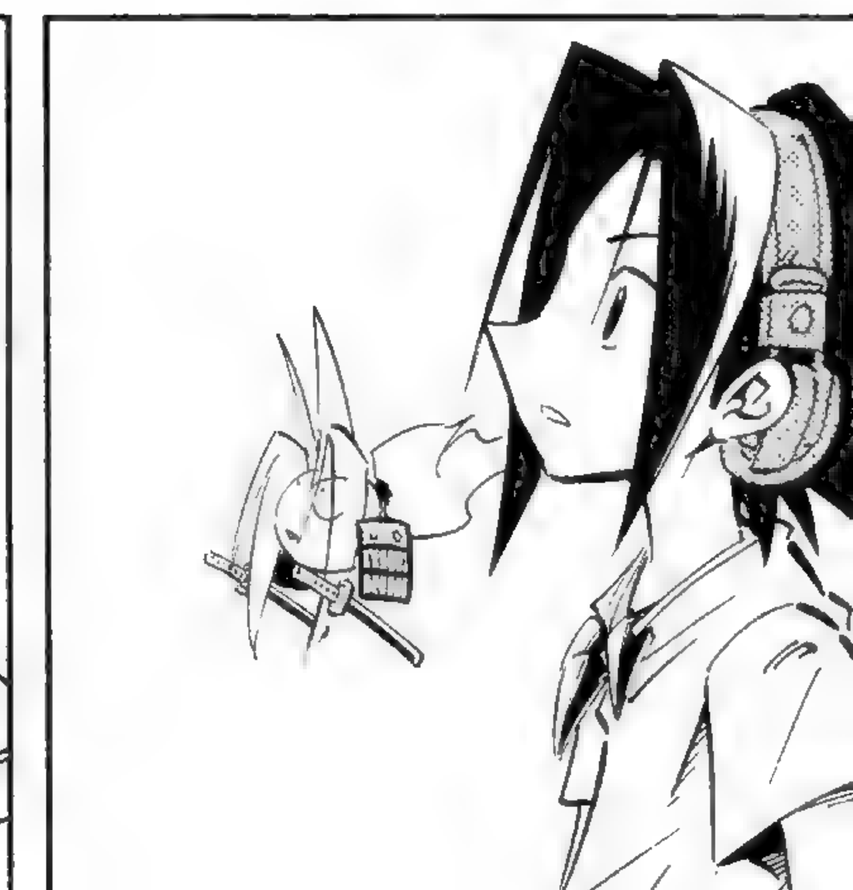
SATI REALLY IS POWERFUL ...

HA HA HA

FOR TRAINING.

COME IN.

SATI TOLD ME SO.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THE GIANT OGRE.

MATAMUNE ...

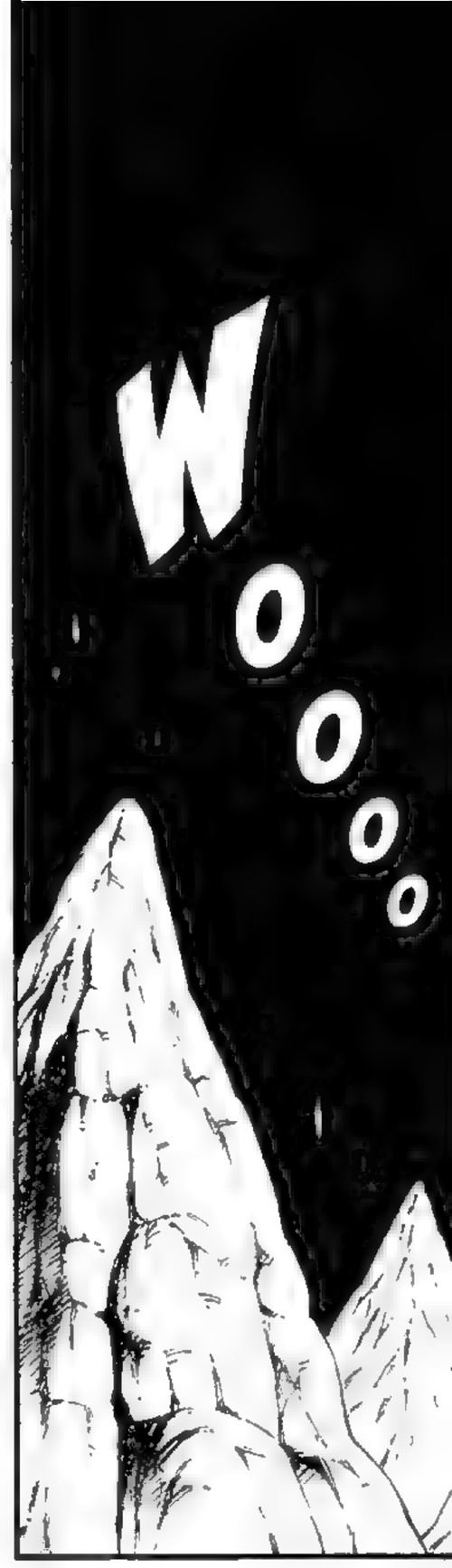
LORD YOH, IS THAT THE SAME OGRE FROM FIVE YEARS AGO?!

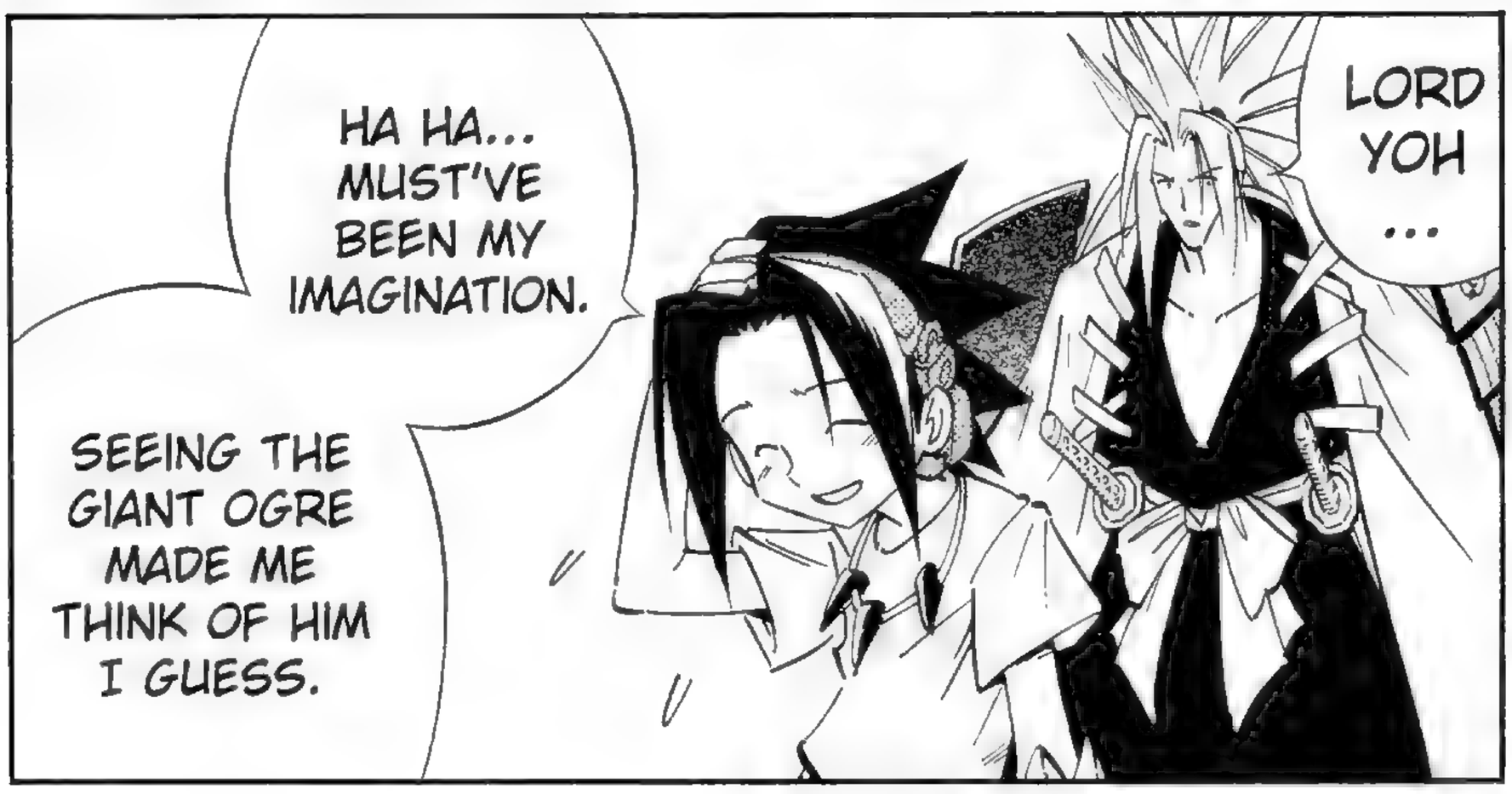
SHUT UP. JUST FOLLOW ME.

TUMP

ARE YOU THERE?

MATAMUNE ...





NOOOO
...

...AS ALWAYS.
PERCEPTIVE ...

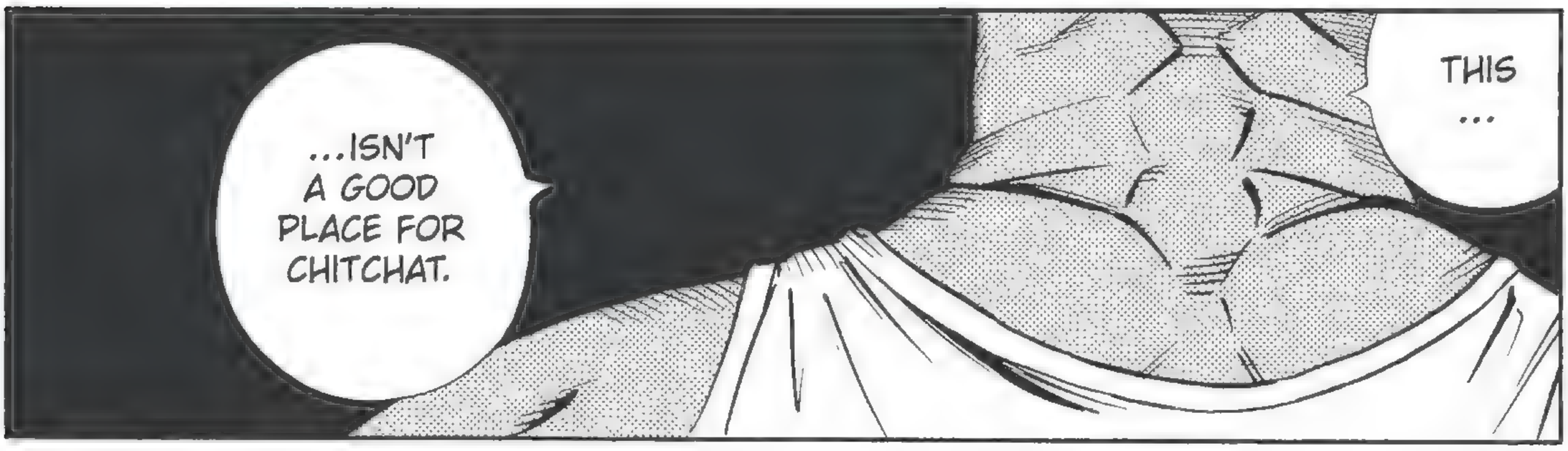
WELL, WELL ...
I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE *YOU* HERE.
THOOM
THOOM

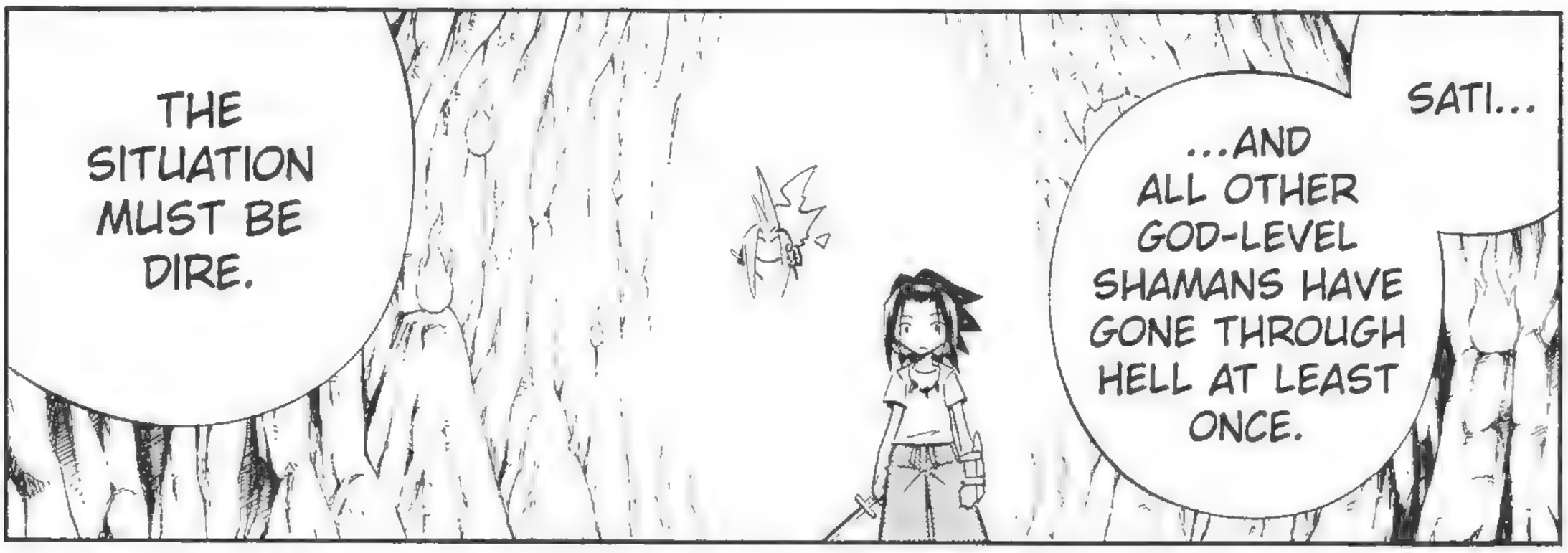
SNAP
KRAK

OGRE ?

...
THOOM

... WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY.
I DON'T KNOW ...


...ISN'T A GOOD PLACE FOR CHITCHAT.
THIS ...

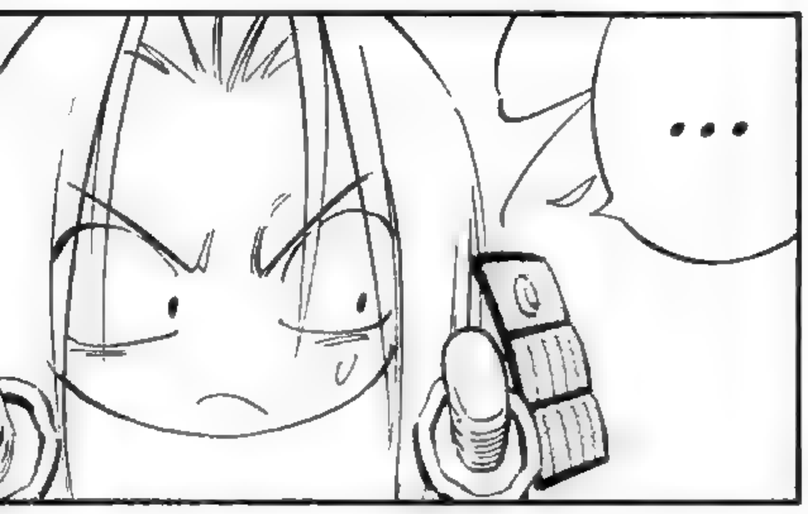

THE SITUATION MUST BE DIRE.
SATI...
...AND ALL OTHER GOD-LEVEL SHAMANS HAVE GONE THROUGH HELL AT LEAST ONCE.

ONLY IF YOU CAN MAKE IT BACK TO THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.

...WILL I BECOME ...
...A GOD-LEVEL SHAMAN TOO?
THEN ...

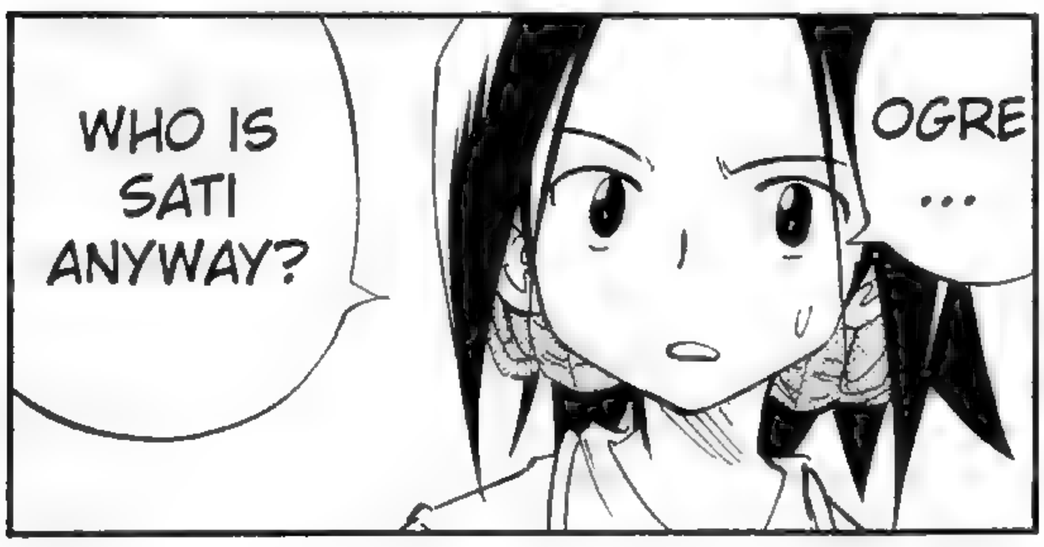
WEAK SOULS ARE SOON DESTROYED HERE.
THIS IS NOTHING LIKE THE WORLD YOU KNOW.

...


...

...FOR BOTH OF YOU.
THAT GOES ...

NOW I SERVE HER.
SATI SAVED ME.
THOOM
EVEN I FOUND THIS INSANE WORLD DIFFICULT.


WHO IS SATI ANYWAY?
OGRE ...

...WHOM SHE SENDS HERE.
I GUIDE PEOPLE ...

SHE'S FINE, I GUESS.
OH, YOU MEAN ANNA.
MOMMY ?

YOH ...
IS MOMMY WELL?

GOOD.

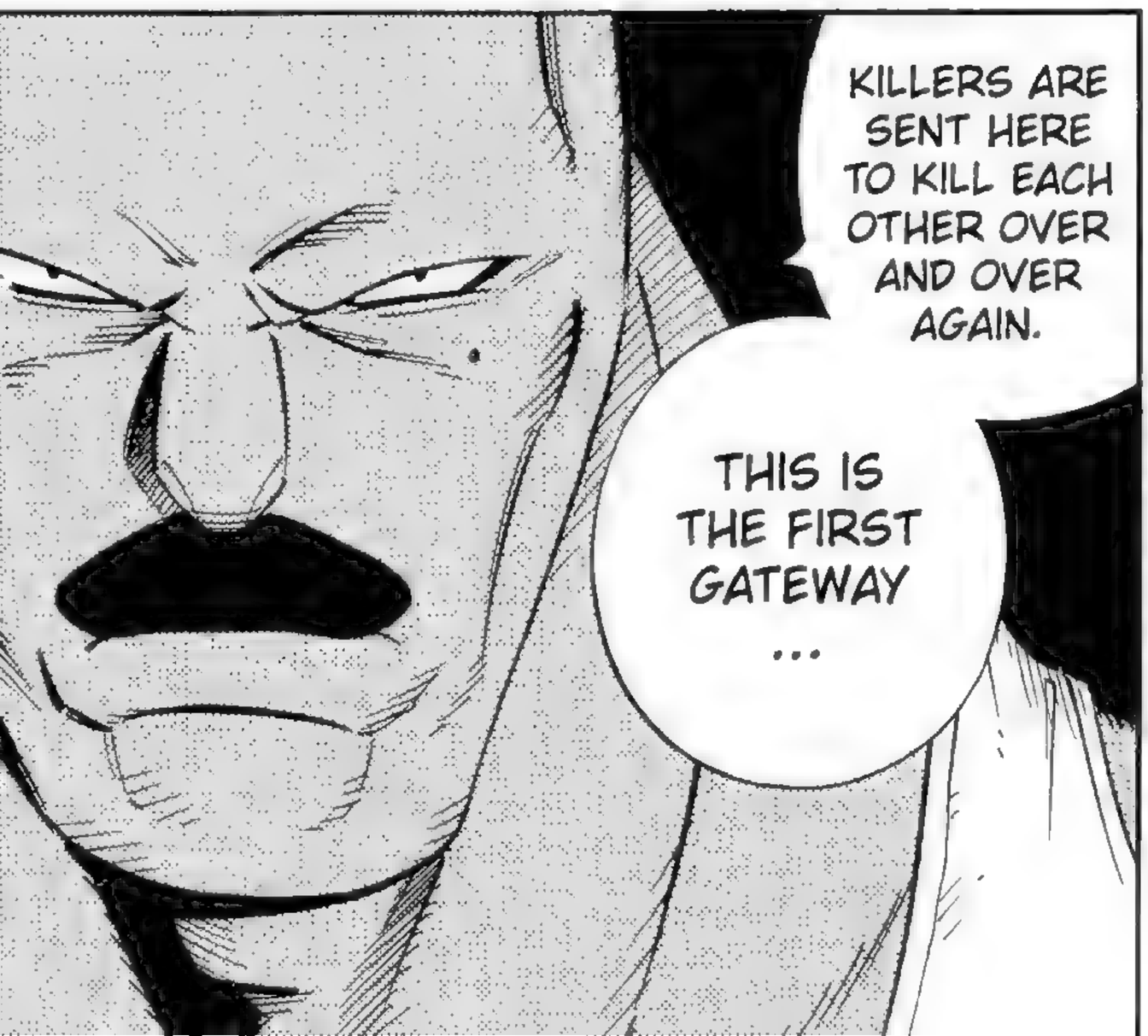
MY JOB ENDS HERE.
YOU CAN ASK SATI HERSELF WHO SHE IS.

YOU HAVE A MISSION.
THAT SHOULD HELP YOU.
THEN YOU MUST GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE.

KLANG

KREEK

!!


KILLERS ARE SENT HERE TO KILL EACH OTHER OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
THIS IS THE FIRST GATEWAY ...

WHOA ...

SANJIVA.

I WANT TO TALK!
WAIT !

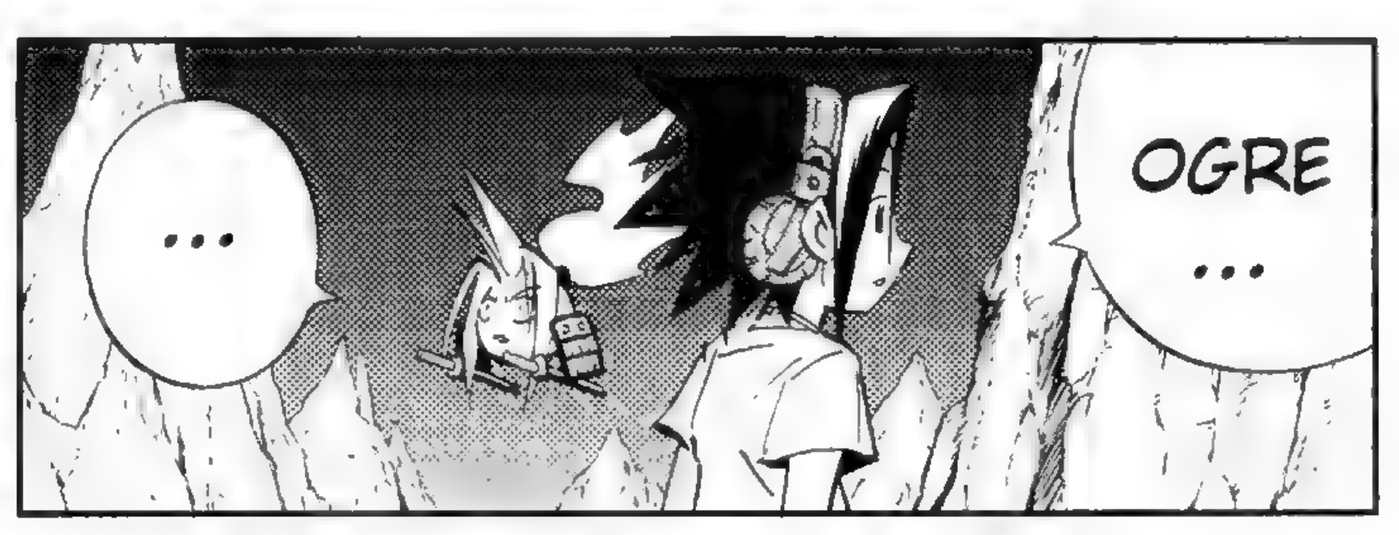
THIS IS AS FAR AS I GO.
YOUR FIRST FOE AWAITS YOU AHEAD.
KREEK
!

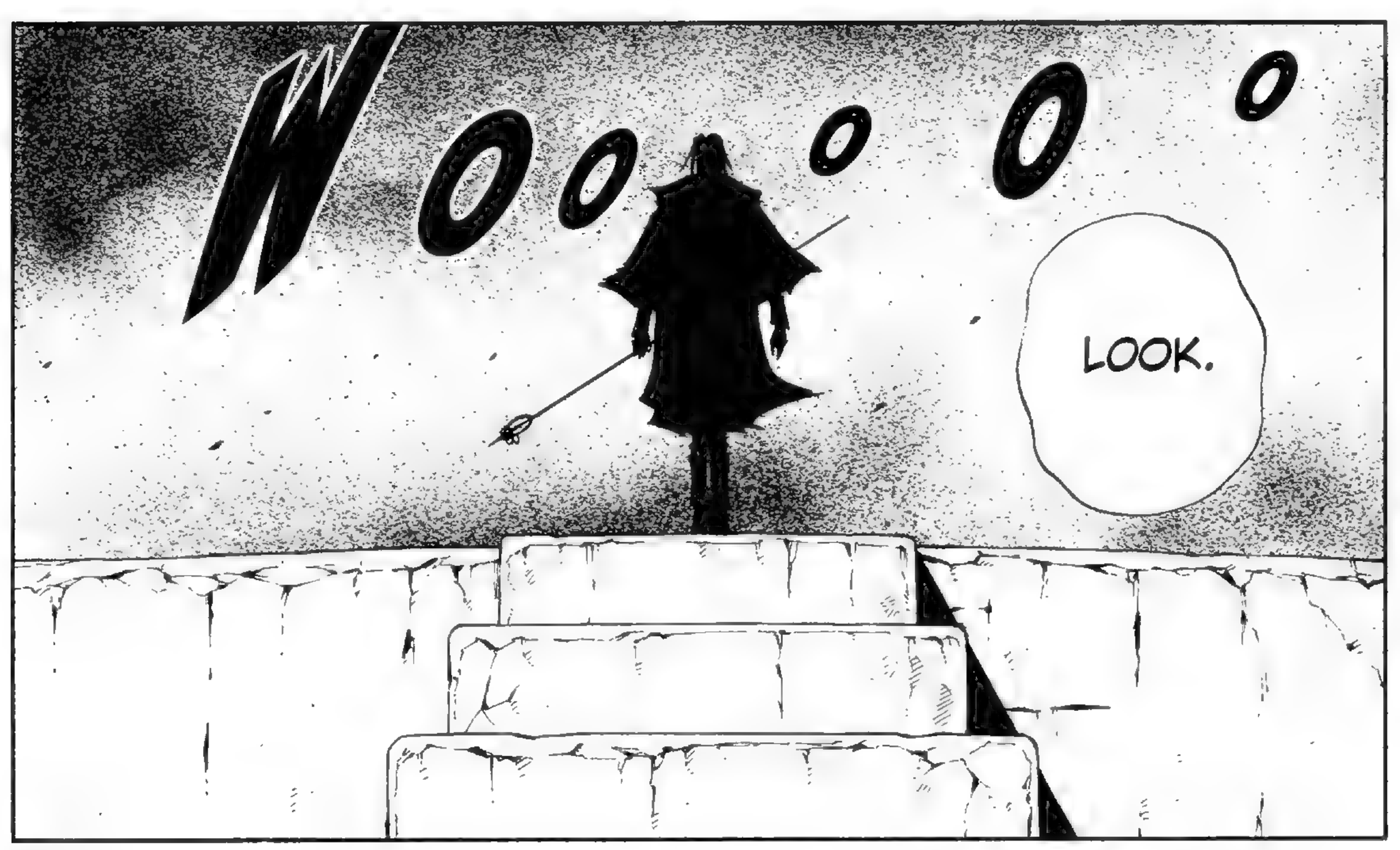
YOH ...

KLANK

...TO MAKE MOMMY HAPPY.
BE SURE ...

LORD YOH ...


...
OGRE ...


WOOOOO
LOOK.

FIGHT FOR YOUR VERY SOUL ...
EAT OR BE EATEN.

...OR DIE.

LORD MIKI-HISA ?!
DOOM

KLANG!

I'LL MAKE IT BACK NO MATTER WHAT I HAVE TO FACE HERE.

FINE, LET'S DO THIS.

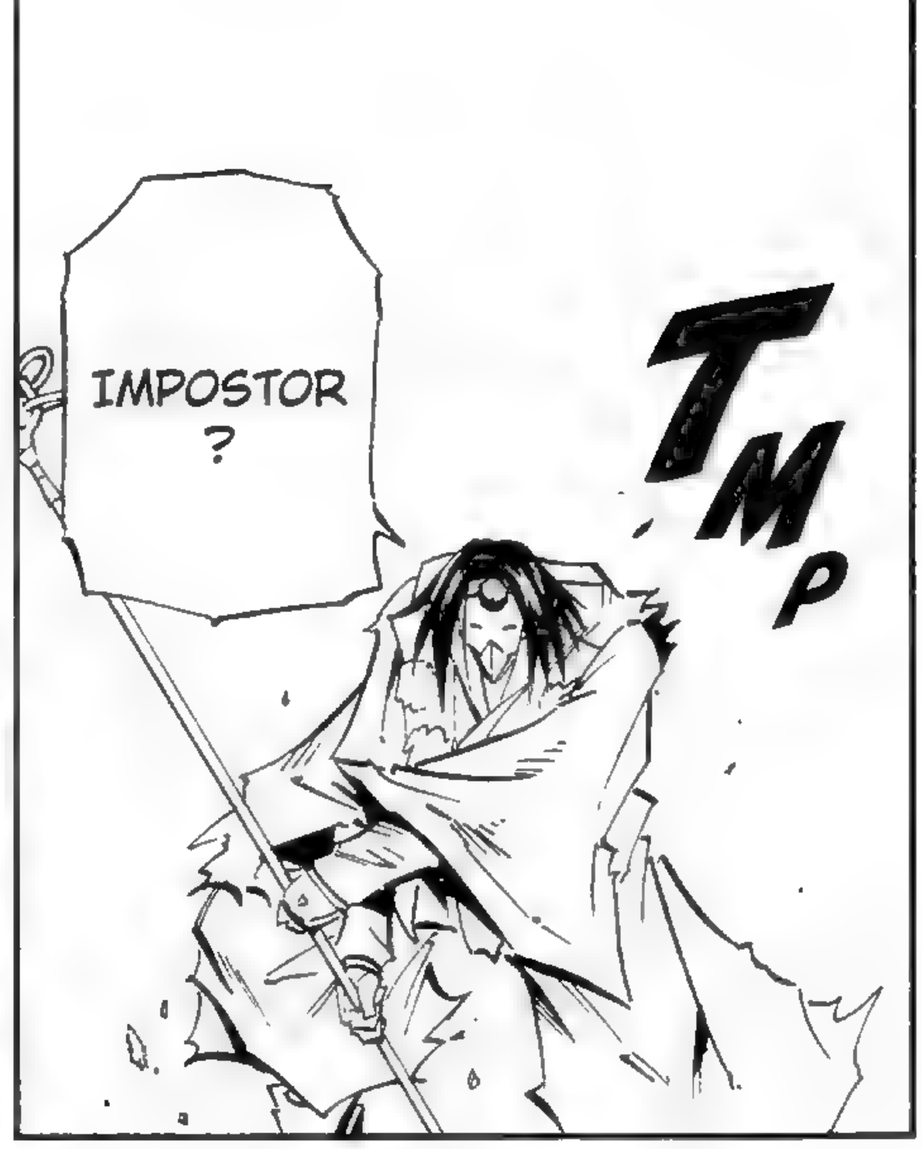
!!

BUT FIRST LET'S EXPOSE HIM!

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME!

CHAK

YOU'RE AN IMPOSTOR!



...YOKEN ASAKURA.

I AM THE ONE AND ONLY...

Shaman King

Reincarnation 235: Ancestor

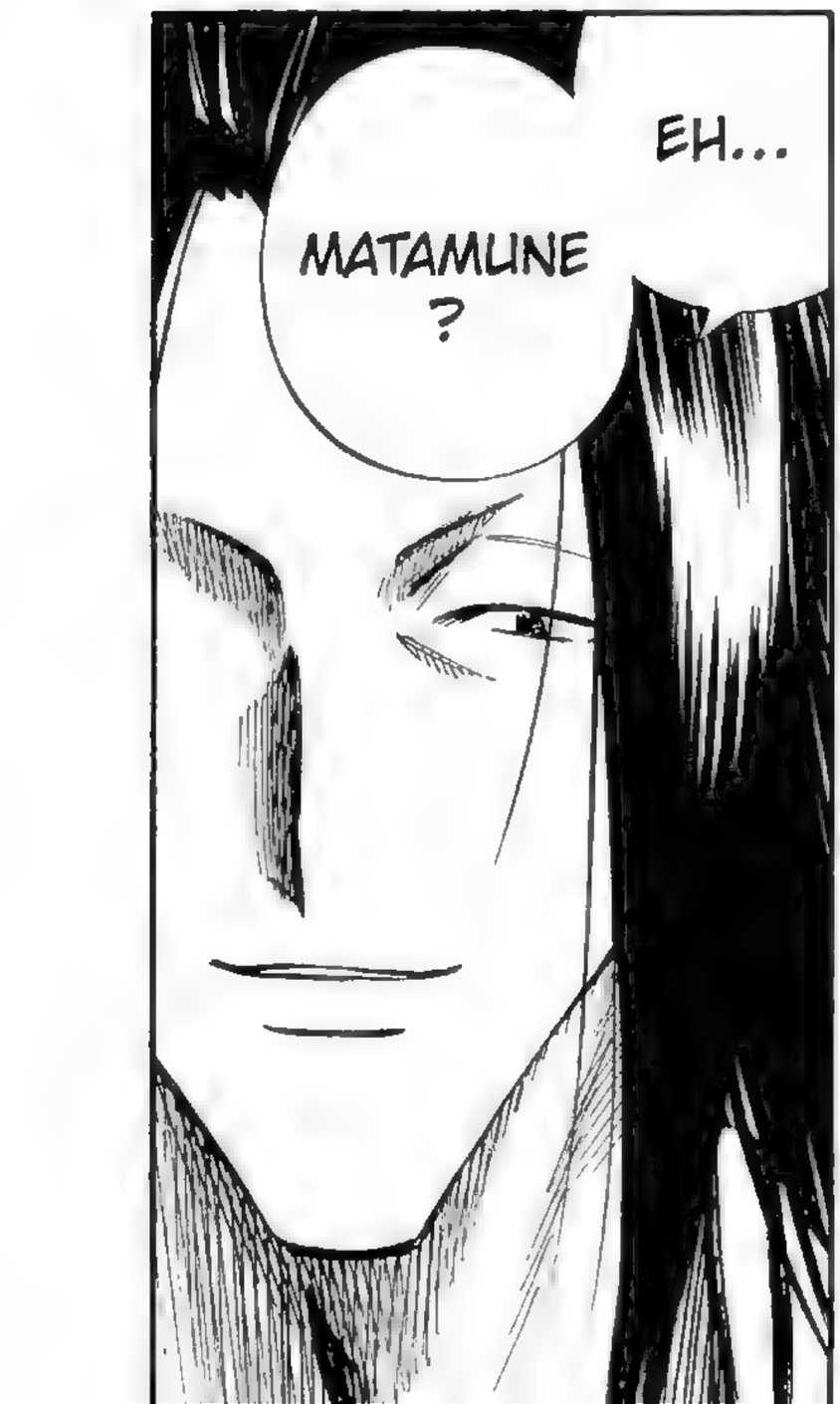
OVER SOUL: OGRE SLAYER !
ZOSH

Reincarnation 235: Ancestor

HEH...

NOT BAD, BOY.

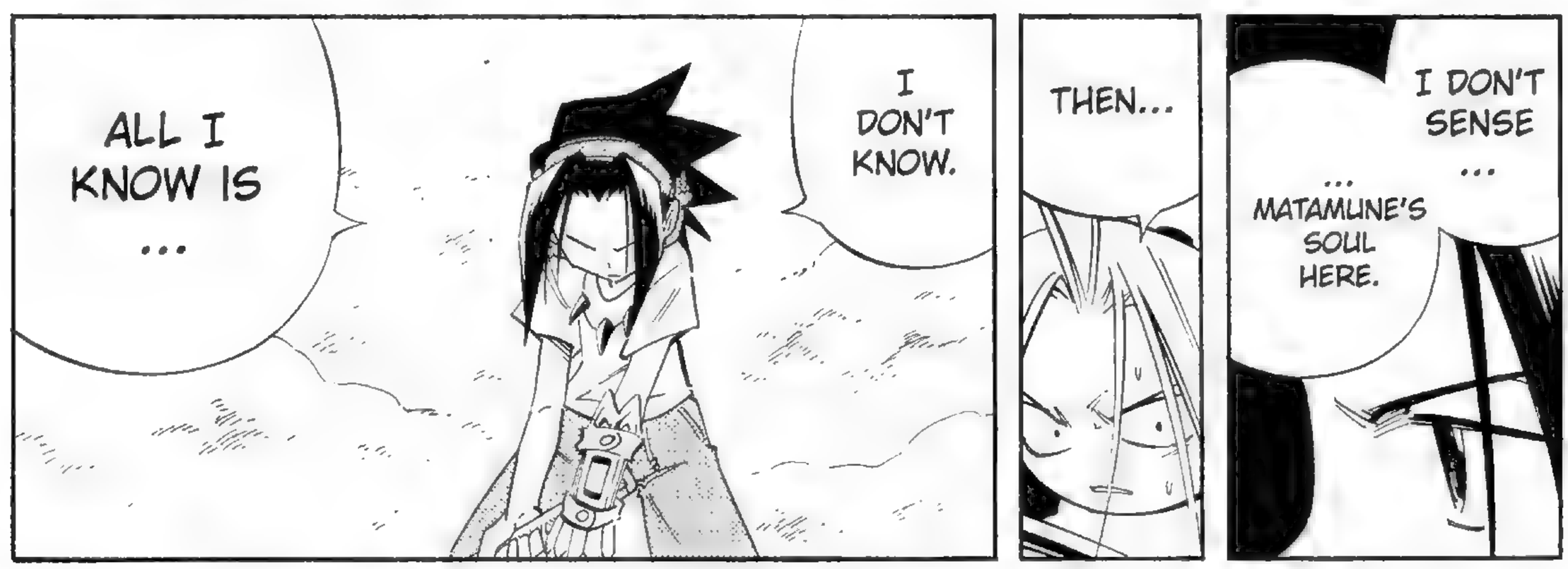
THIS SHOULD BE FUN.



HE'S MY ANCESTOR ...
...THE ONE WHO DEFEATED HAO 500 YEARS AGO WITH MATAMUNE'S HELP.

LORD YOH!
YEAH.

AND THAT OVER SOUL...
THAT WAS 500 YEARS AGO. DOESN'T HE KNOW?
BUT IT'S STRANGE. HE SAID *THIS* SHAMAN FIGHT.

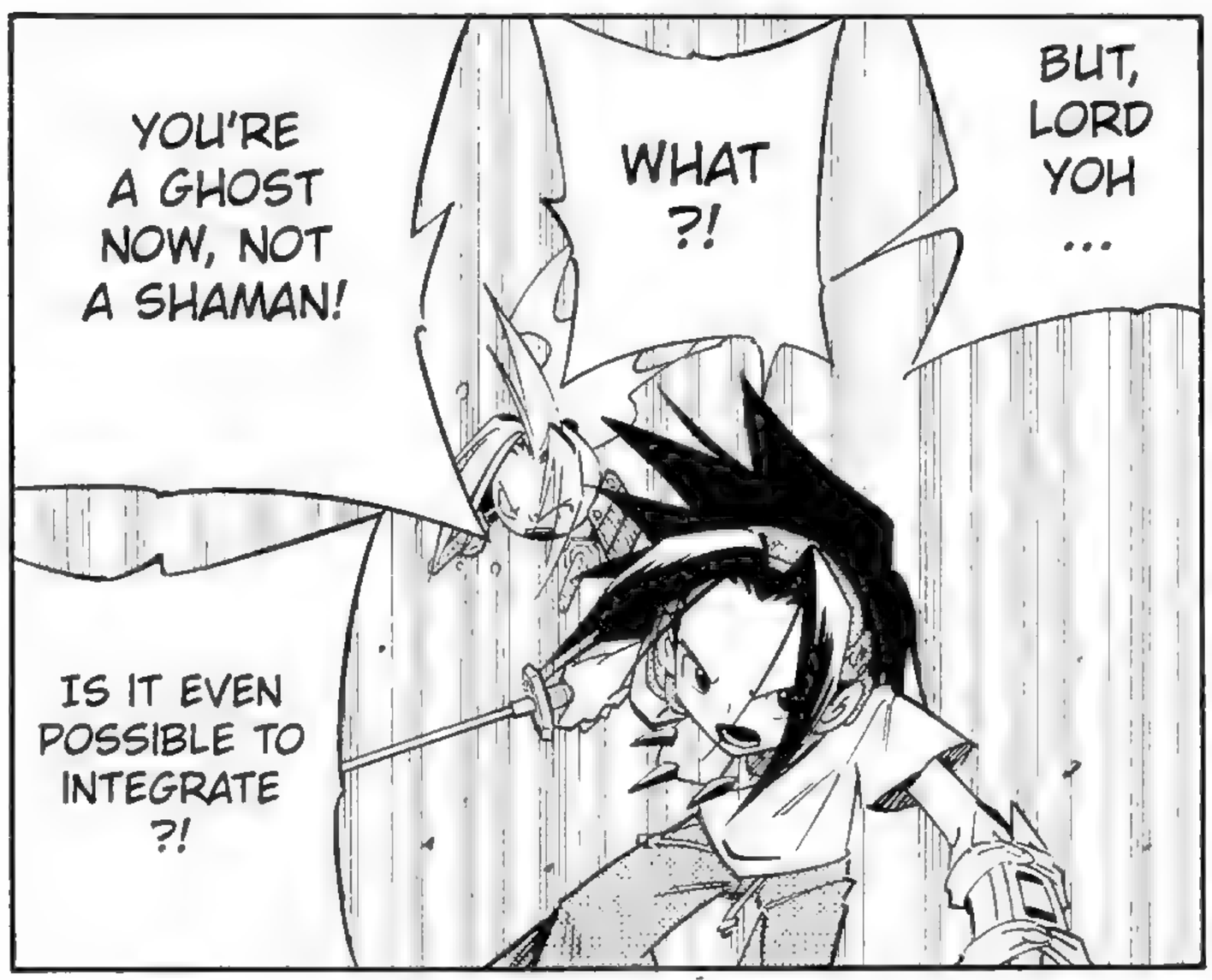

ALL I KNOW IS ...
I DON'T KNOW.
THEN...
I DON'T SENSE ...
... MATAMUNE'S SOUL HERE.

... TO GET OUT OF HELL.
CHAK
I GOTTA DEFEAT HIM...

WHAN

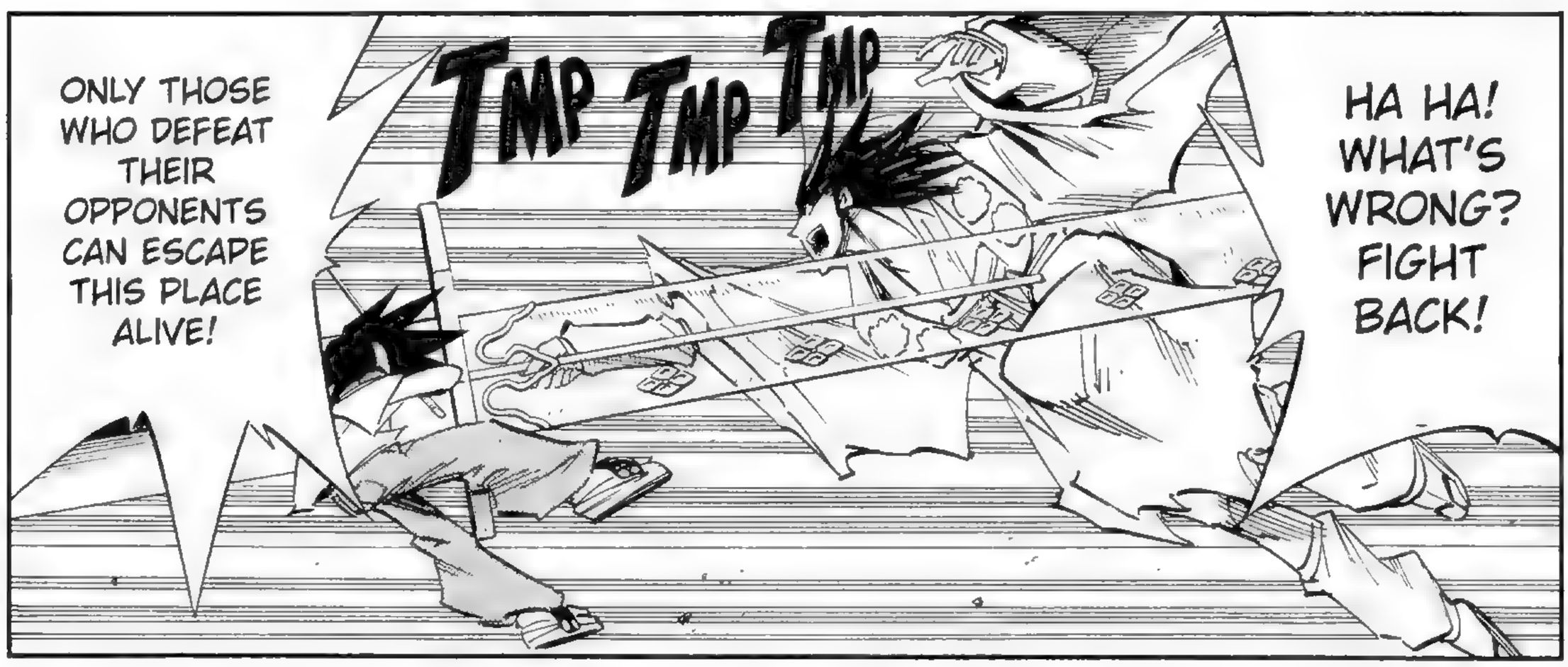
...
WHISPERING ABOUT ?!

GAH!



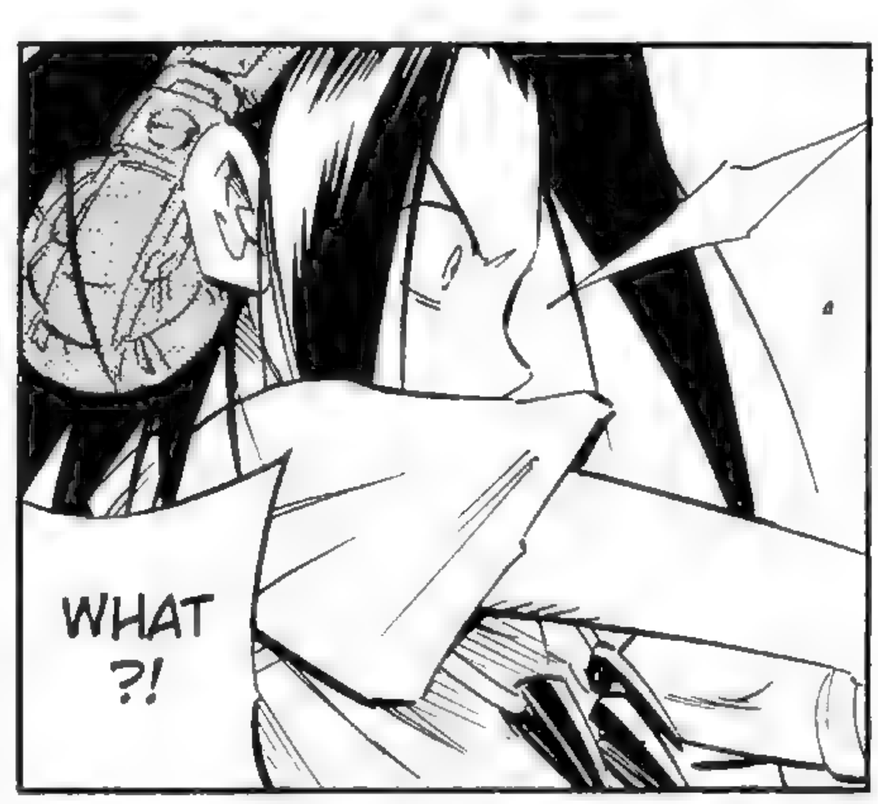
OH, YEAH.

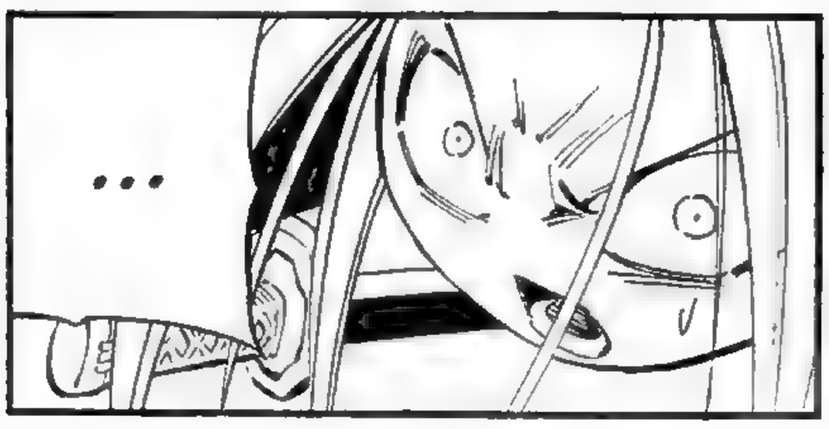
WE NEED FUTSU-NO-MITAMA TO FORM IT!
AND WHAT OF OUR NEW OVER SOUL?!

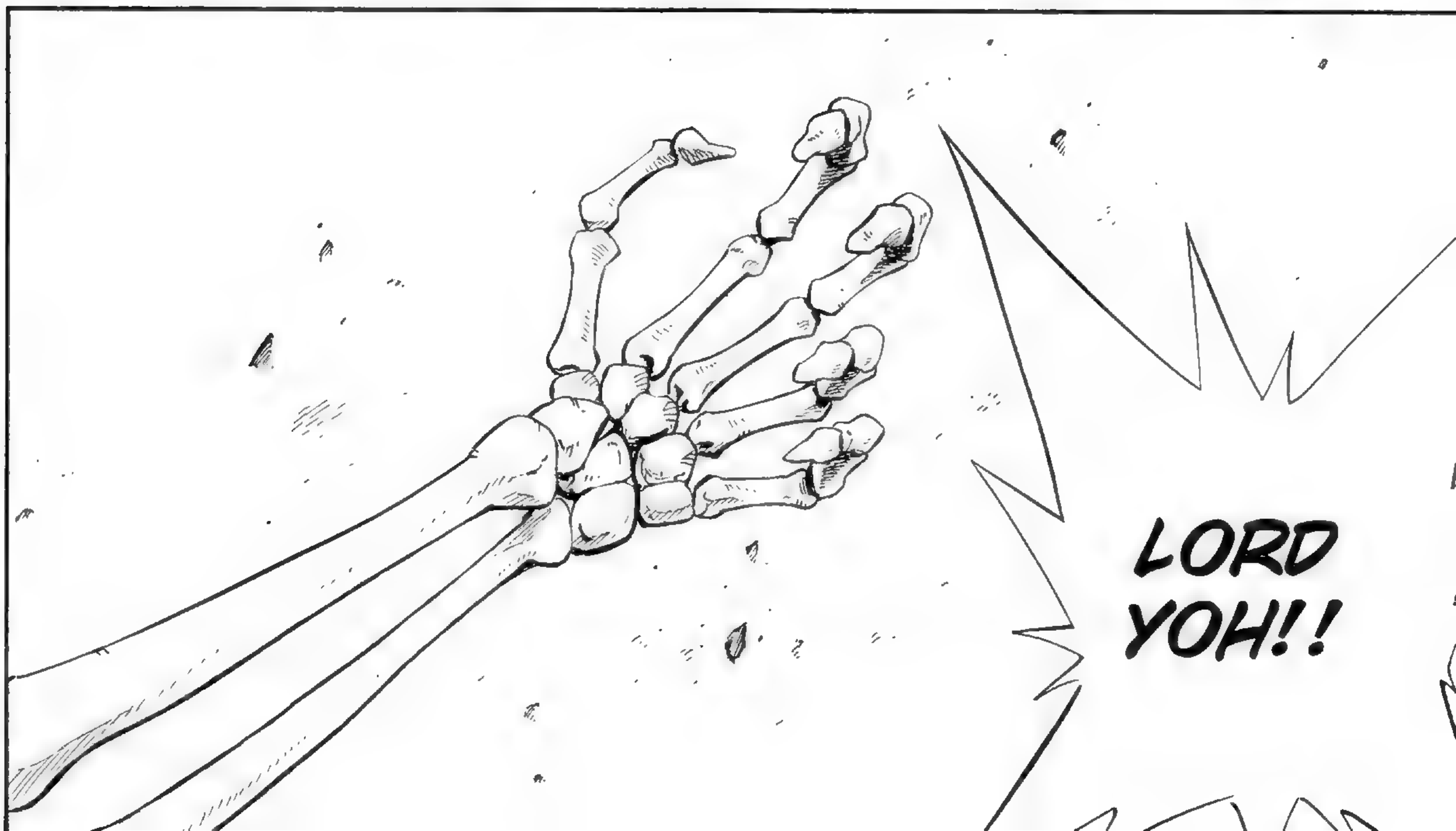

ONLY THOSE WHO DEFEAT THEIR OPPONENTS CAN ESCAPE THIS PLACE ALIVE!
TMP TMP TMP
HA HA! WHAT'S WRONG? FIGHT BACK!

...AND RETURN TO THE WORLD OF THE LIVING!
I WILL DEFEAT YOU...
I WILL ESCAPE!

TAKE THIS!


WHAT ?!


...


LORD YOH!!

LORD YOH!

UGH! GAAH!

...

LORD YOH!

WAAAAH!

THUD

UNH ...

THIS IS TIRESOME.

YOU FIEND!

HOW MANY MORE MUST I DEFEAT?

WHO'S NEXT?

I CAN ...
... STILL FIGHT.

WHA ...
HOLD ON.

LORD YOH !
I'M FINE.
I'M STARTING TO GET IT.

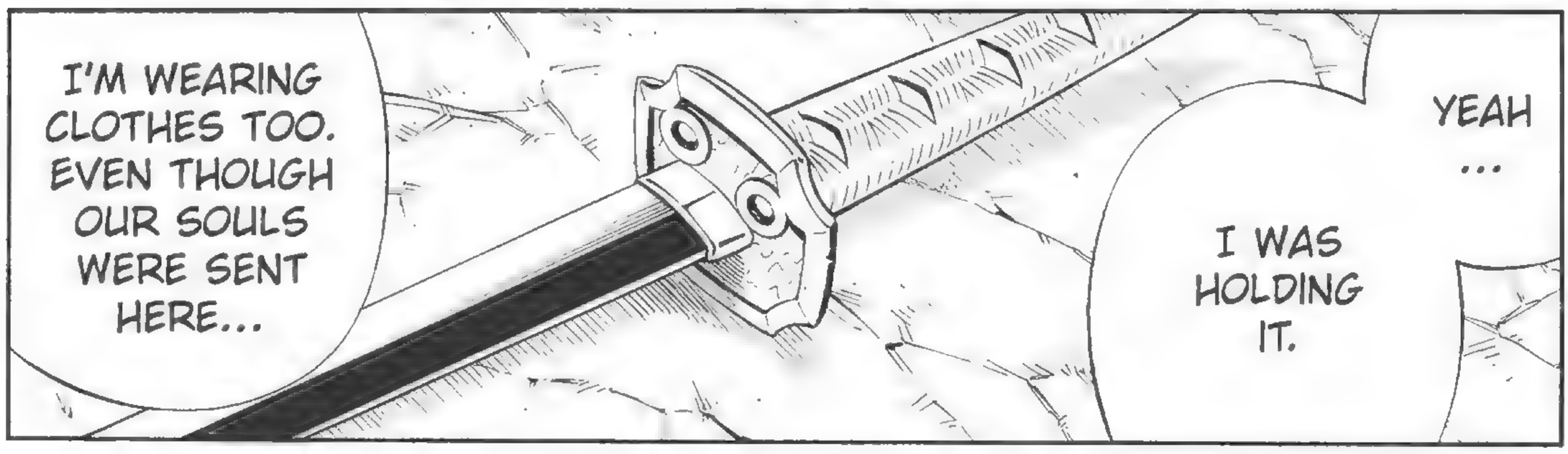
HE'S BOUND HERE...
...TO THIS CIRCLE OF HELL...
...WHERE KILLERS KILL EACH OTHER FOR ETERNITY.

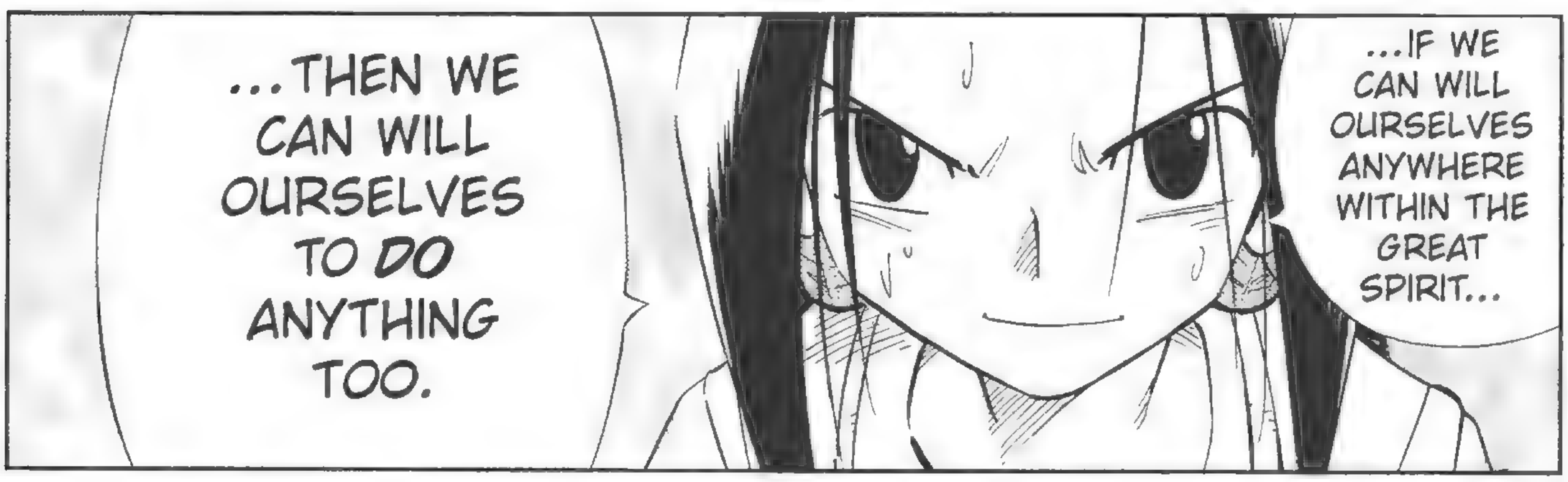
WHAT?

BUT IF THIS IS HELL...
...THEN I DON'T THINK WE'RE AS HELPLESS AS WE SEEM.

... WHEN YOU DIED?
BECAUSE YOU HAD IT IN YOUR HAND ...

!
ZANG
AMIDAMARU ...
...HOW COME YOU STILL HAVE HARUSAME?


I'M WEARING CLOTHES TOO. EVEN THOUGH OUR SOULS WERE SENT HERE...
I WAS HOLDING IT.
YEAH ...

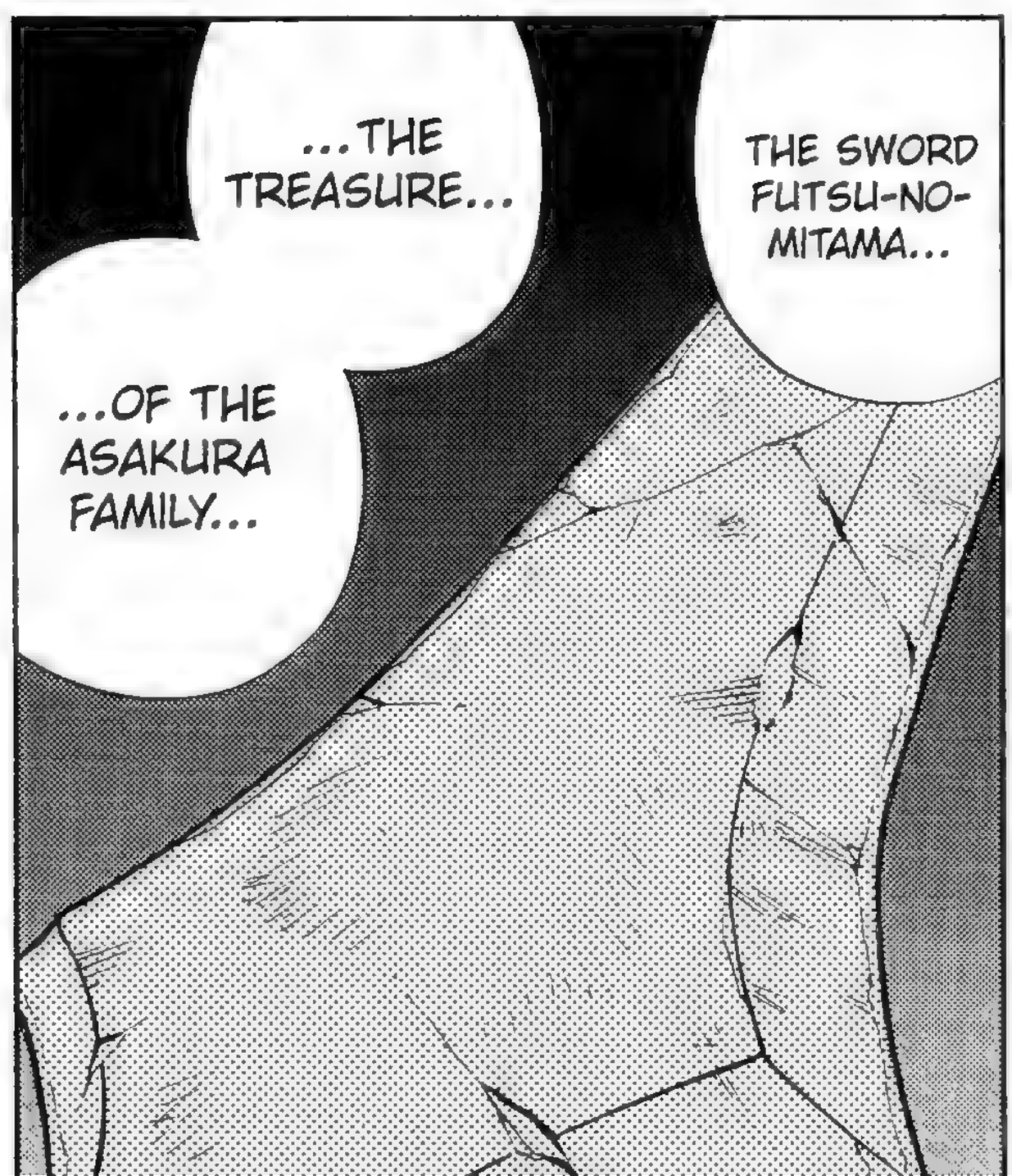

...THEN WE CAN WILL OURSELVES TO DO ANYTHING TOO.
...IF WE CAN WILL OURSELVES ANYWHERE WITHIN THE GREAT SPIRIT...

...BY THE POWER OF OUR WILLS ALONE.
WE CAN MAKE THINGS HAPPEN ...

THEN ...

100%
MF

IT WORKS JUST LIKE AN OVER SOUL.
YEAH.


...THE TREASURE...
THE SWORD FUTSU-NO-MITAMA...
...OF THE ASAKURA FAMILY...

...

SO MAYBE ...
...HE CREATED THE OGRE SLAYER WITHOUT MATAMUNE'S HELP.
TMP

YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE THIS, BUT I'M ONE OF YOUR DESCENDANTS FROM 500 YEARS AFTER YOUR TIME.

I'M YOH ASAKURA.

BOW

THERE'S LIFE IN HIS EYES AGAIN.

WHO ARE YOU?!

SWF

I THINK I KNOW WHAT HE'S...

WHAT ?!

THE POWER THAT DEFEATED HAO...
...500 YEARS AGO...

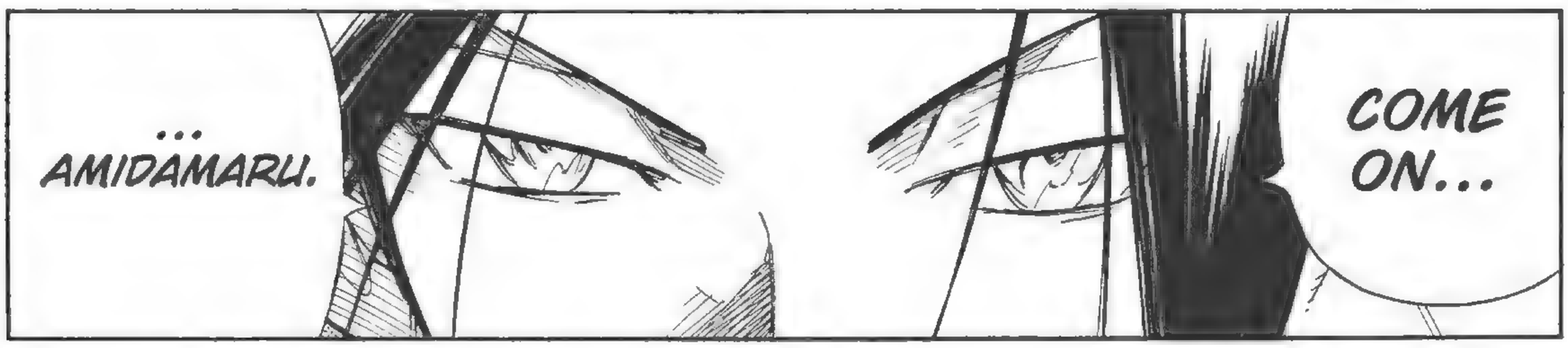
...MUST BE CONQUERED ...
...OR ALL IS LOST.

WHOOSH!!

NOW HE MUST BECOME AS HE WAS 500 YEARS AGO.

THE ULTRA SENJI RYAKKETSU ALLOWED YOH TO BE AS HE WAS 1,000 YEARS AGO.

WE SHALL SEE.



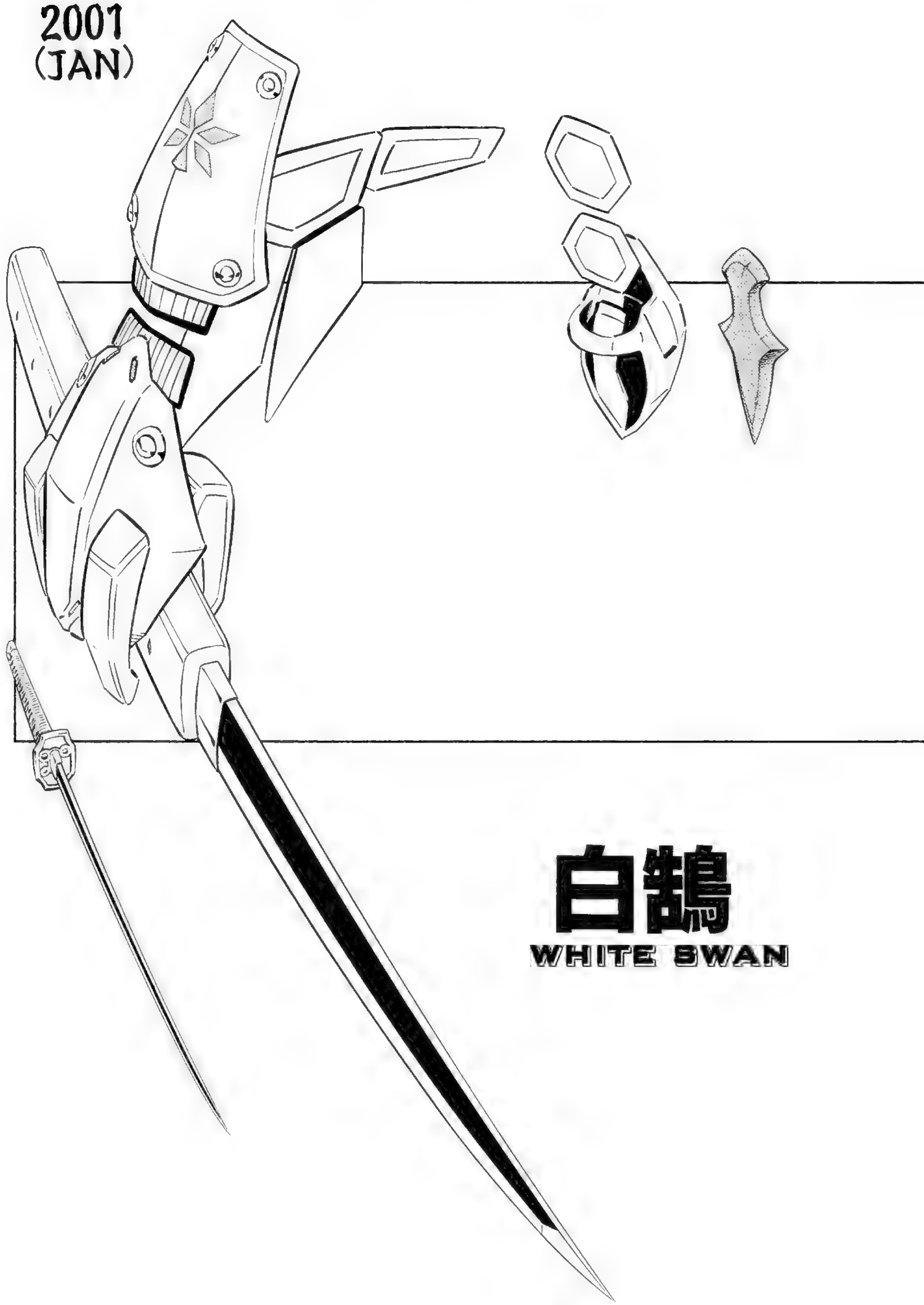
OOM

NEW OVER SOUL ...

SPIRIT
OF
SWORD

WHITE SWAN

2001
(JAN)



白鶴
WHITE SWAN

MAY THOSE WHO PRESIDE OVER ALL WARRIORS PROTECT ME!

FAST BINDING !!

Reincarnation 236: Not Quite a Family Reunion

...FOR KILLING HIS OWN ANCESTOR 500 YEARS AGO.

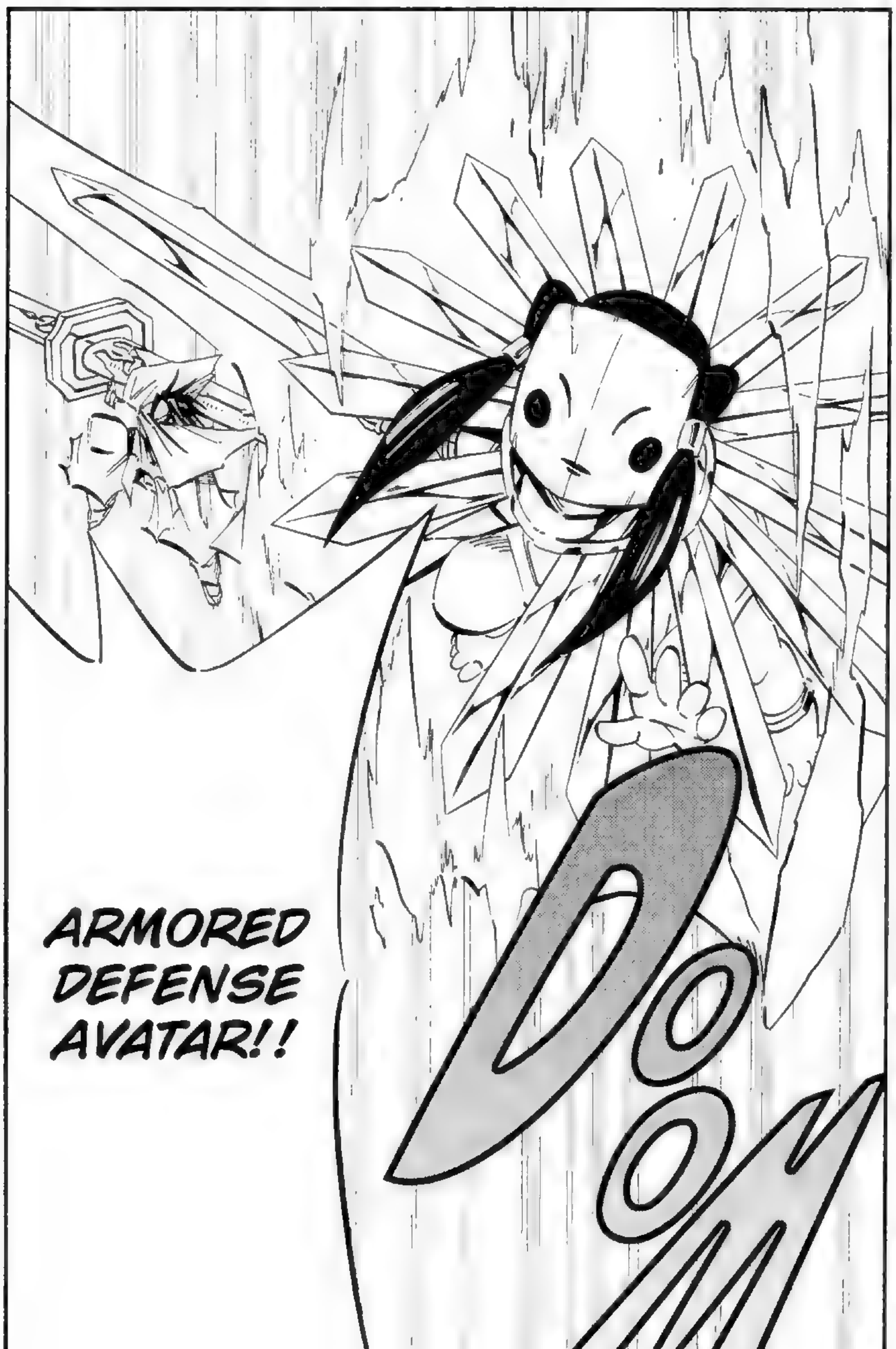
SWASH

HE'S A GOOD GUY!

AH!

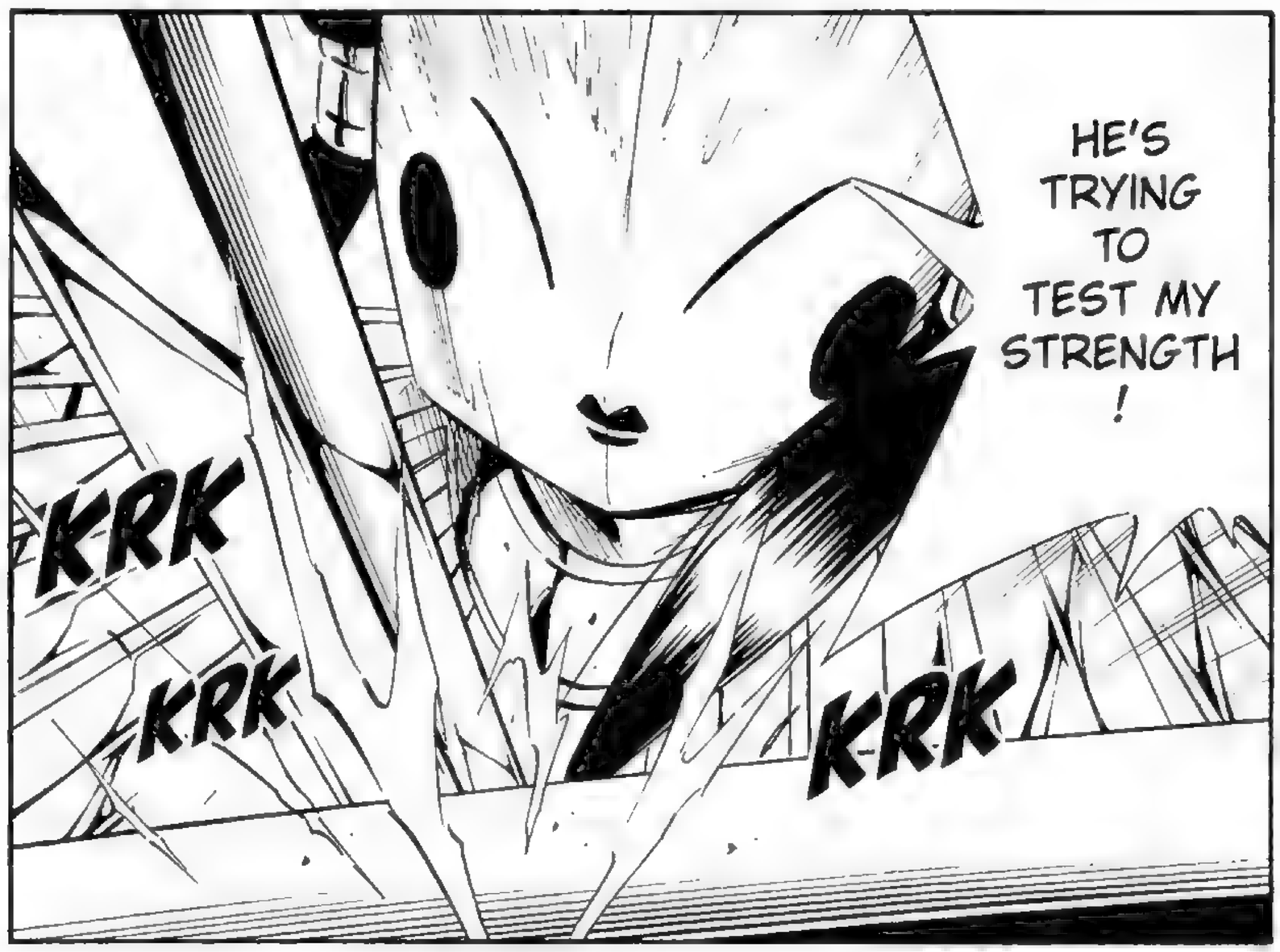
Reincarnation 236: Not Quite a Family Reunion

KARARINCHO KARARIN SVAHA!
THAT CURIOUS OVER SOUL BROKE MY SPELL!
YOUR SAMURAI IS VERY SKILLFUL!
HUP HU HUP

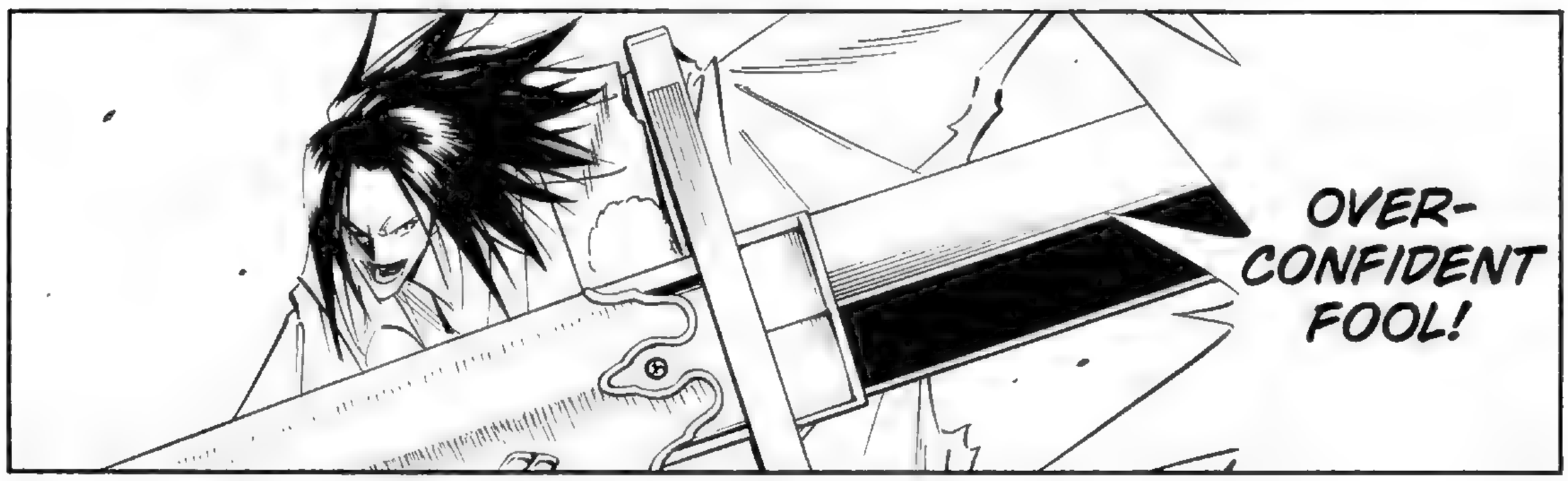

ARMORED DEFENSE AVATAR!!

RAAAAH!
TMP TMP
TM TM

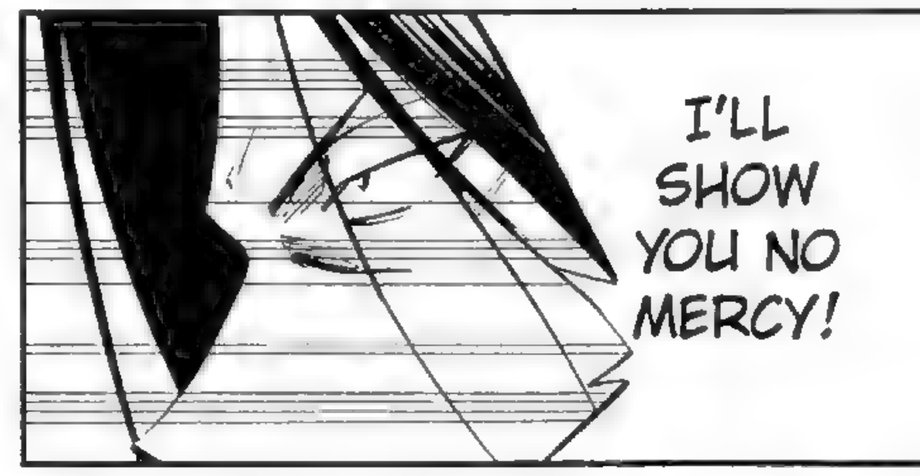
!

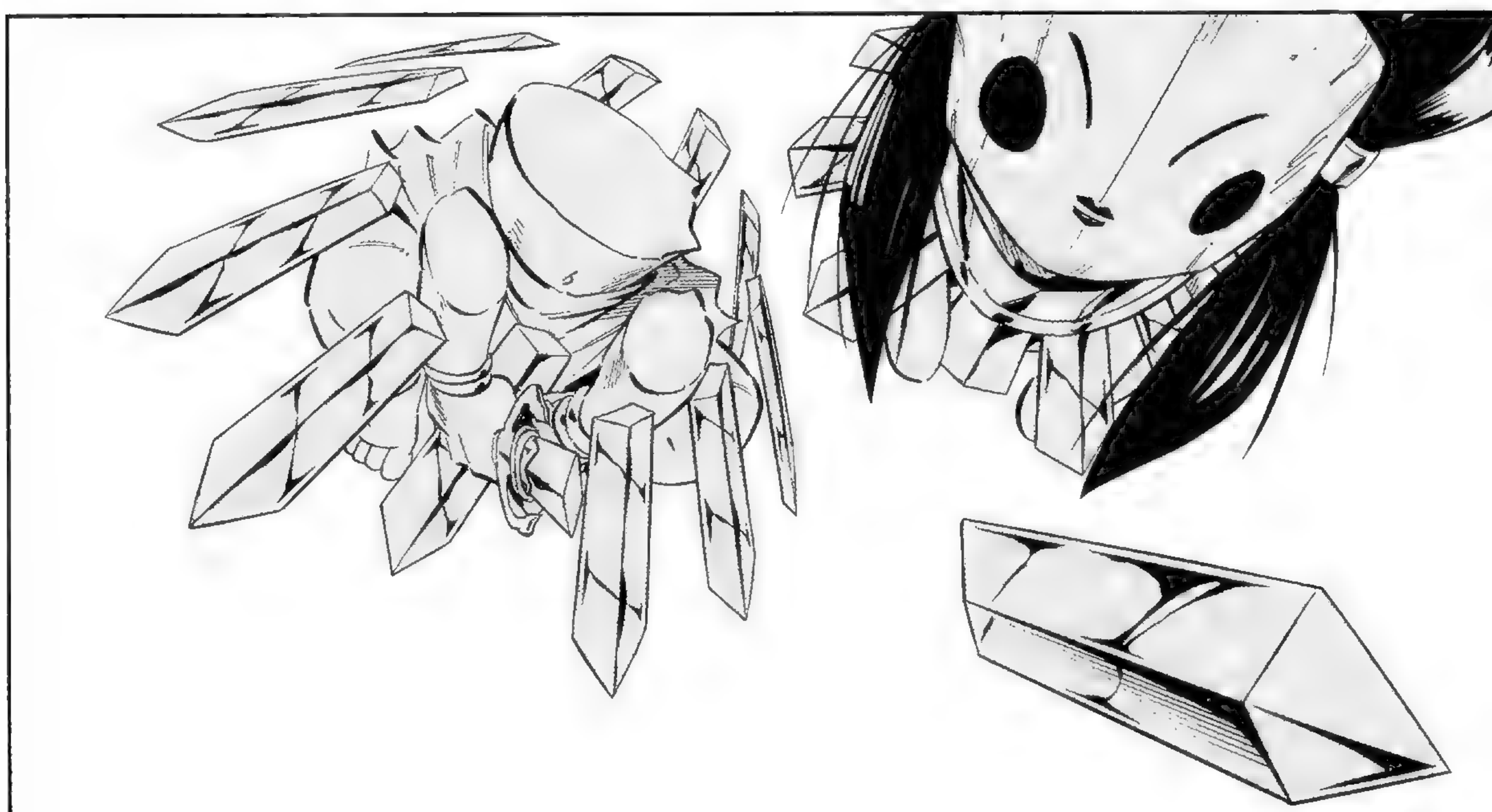

HE'S TRYING TO TEST MY STRENGTH !
KRK
KRK
KRK

THEY'RE LIKE DAD'S IMARI AND SHIGARAKI !
SPRITES ?!


OVER-CONFIDENT FOOL!

SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS!





VERY WELL.

THOSE SPRITES OF YOURS WON'T STALL MY OVER SOUL!

BANG

THAT LITTLE BLADE INCREASES THE DENSITY OF YOUR MANA.

NOW I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF.

TAKE THIS.

BUT YOU WON'T VANQUISH ME WITH A PASSIVE TACTIC LIKE THAT.

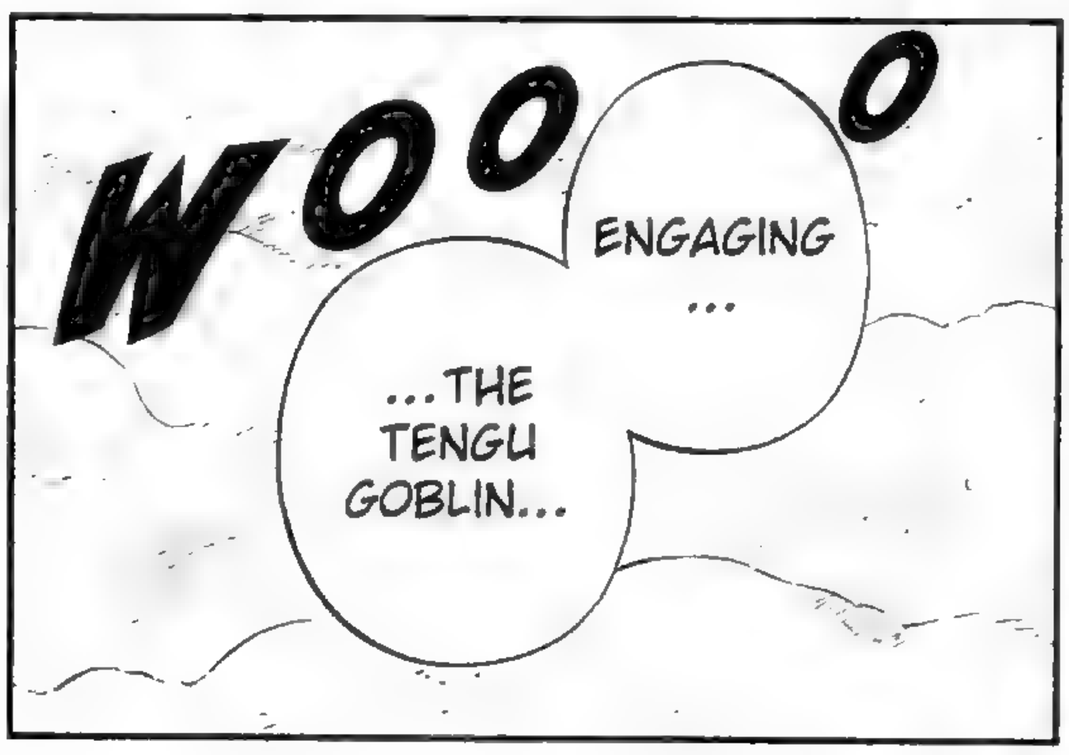
ASCETICISM
PERFECTED

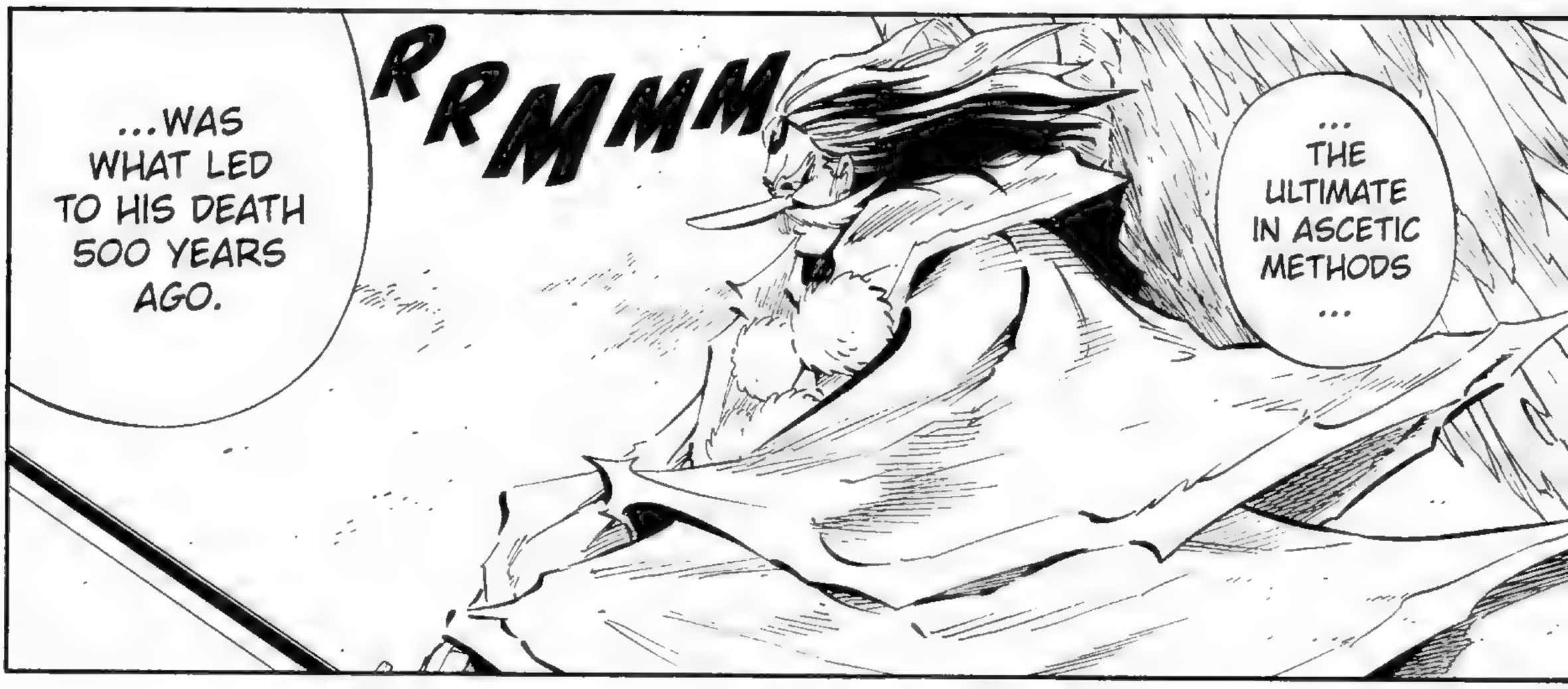
WOOOC

ASCETICISM PERFECTED

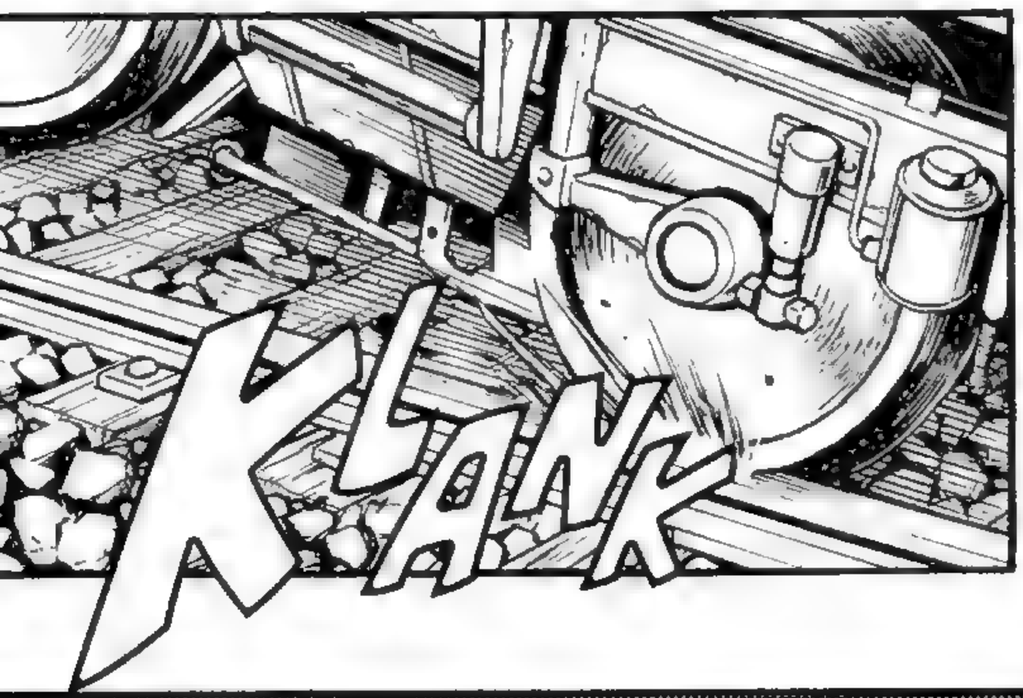
W
O
O
O
...

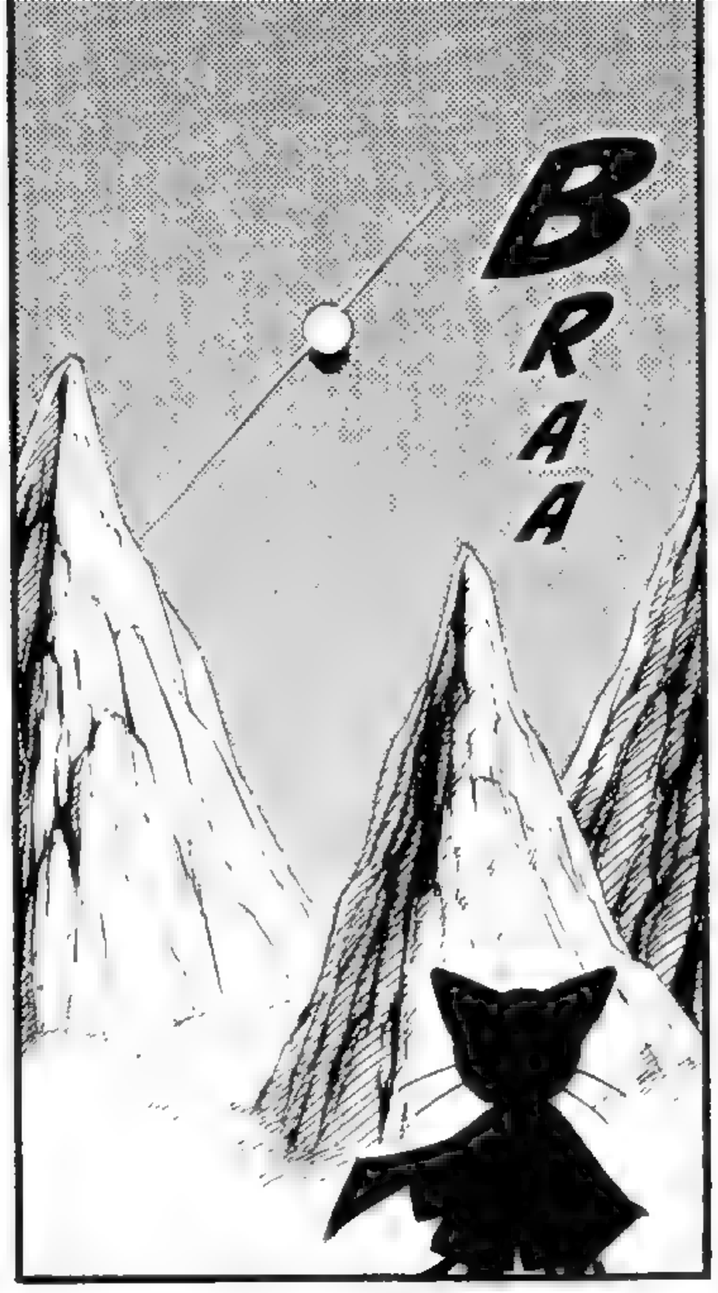
BOOM

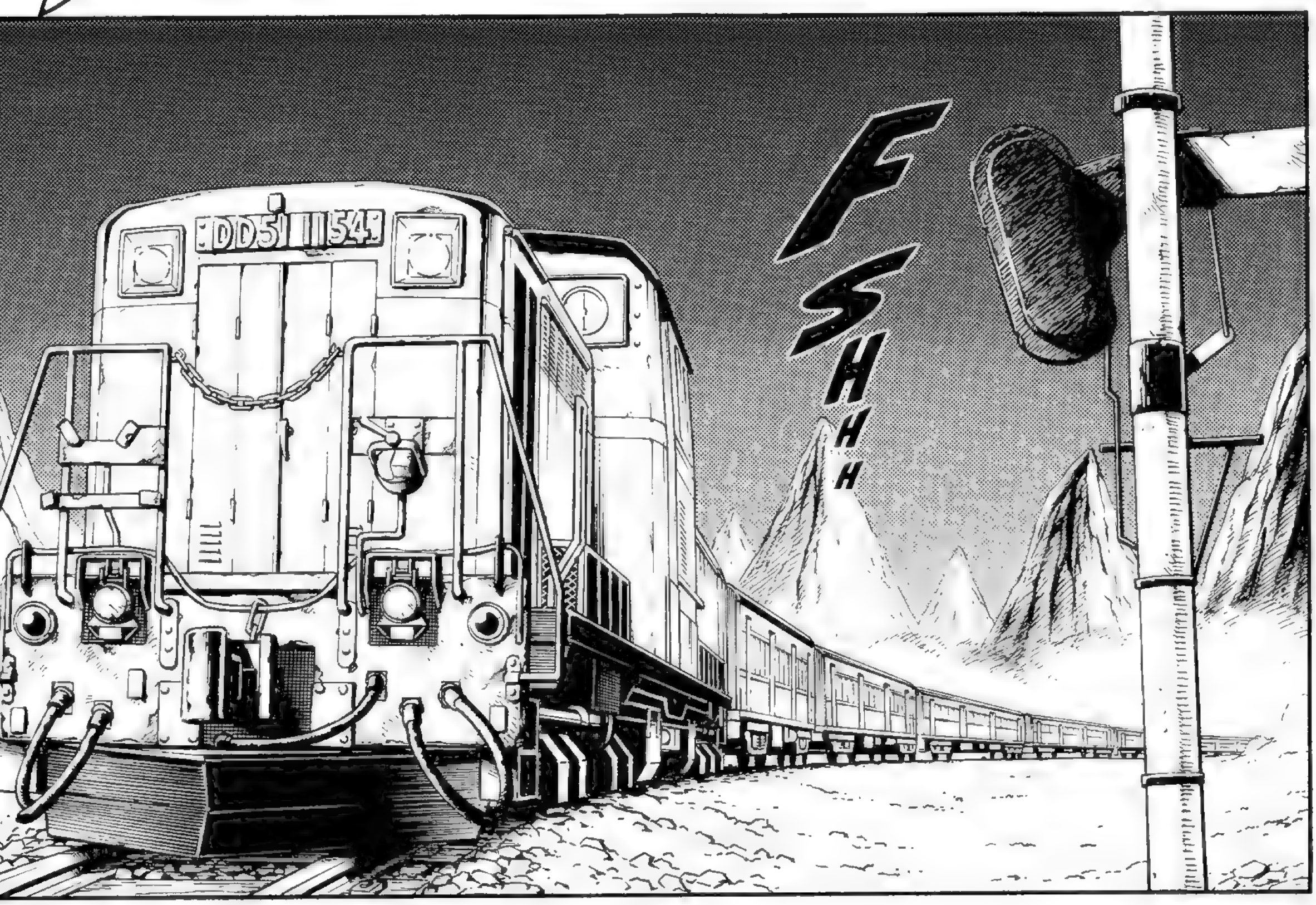

WOOO
ENGAGING ...
...THE TENGU GOBLIN...

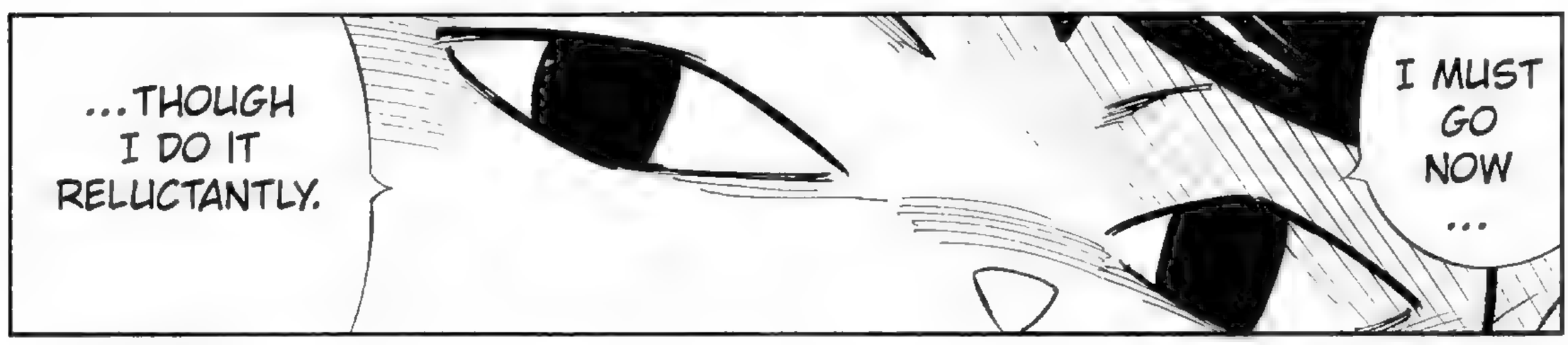

...WAS WHAT LED TO HIS DEATH 500 YEARS AGO.
RRMMM
... THE ULTIMATE IN ASCETIC METHODS ...

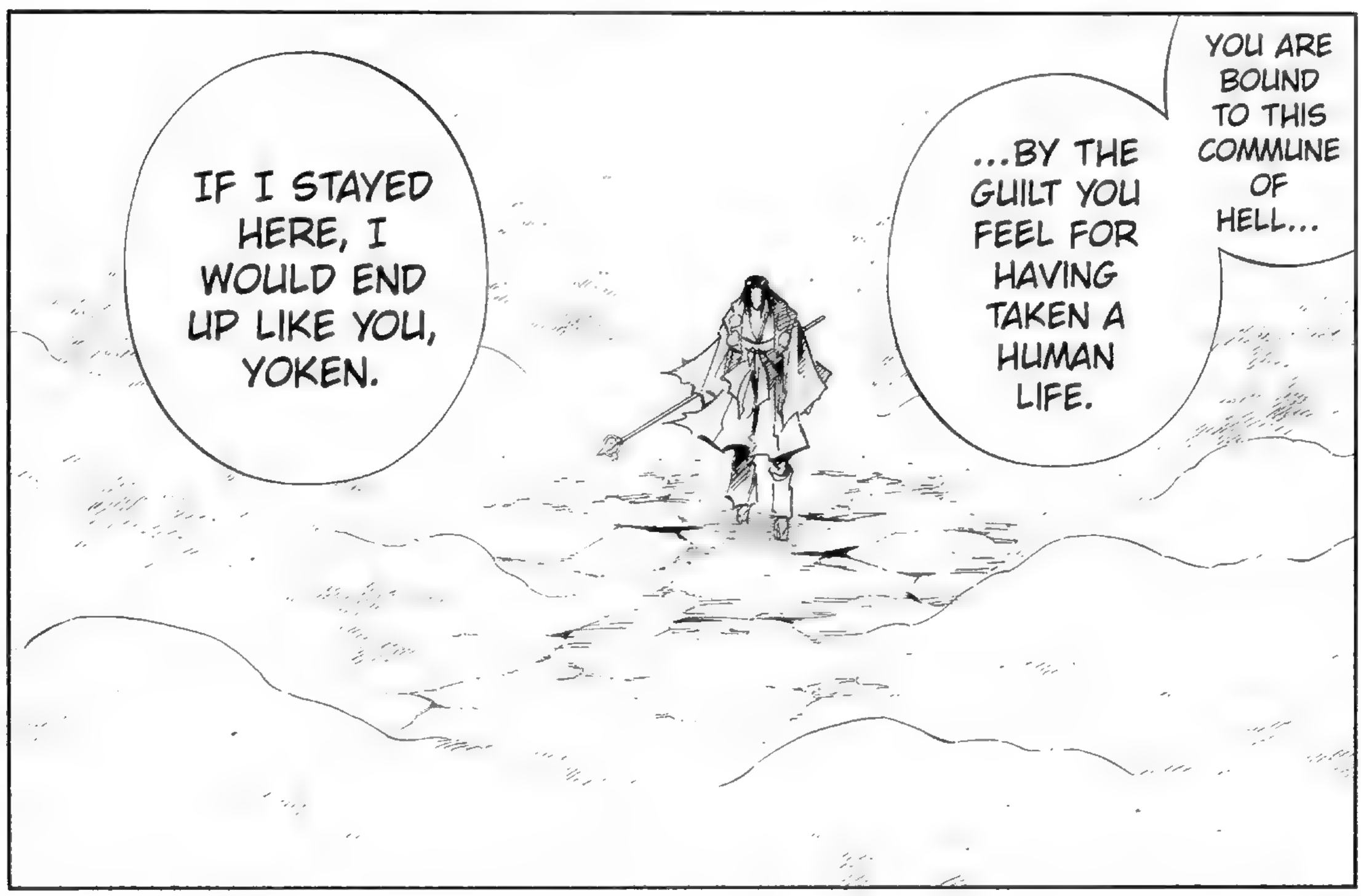
YOKEN, I WONDER...
HE'S USING IT NOW.


KLANK


BRAA

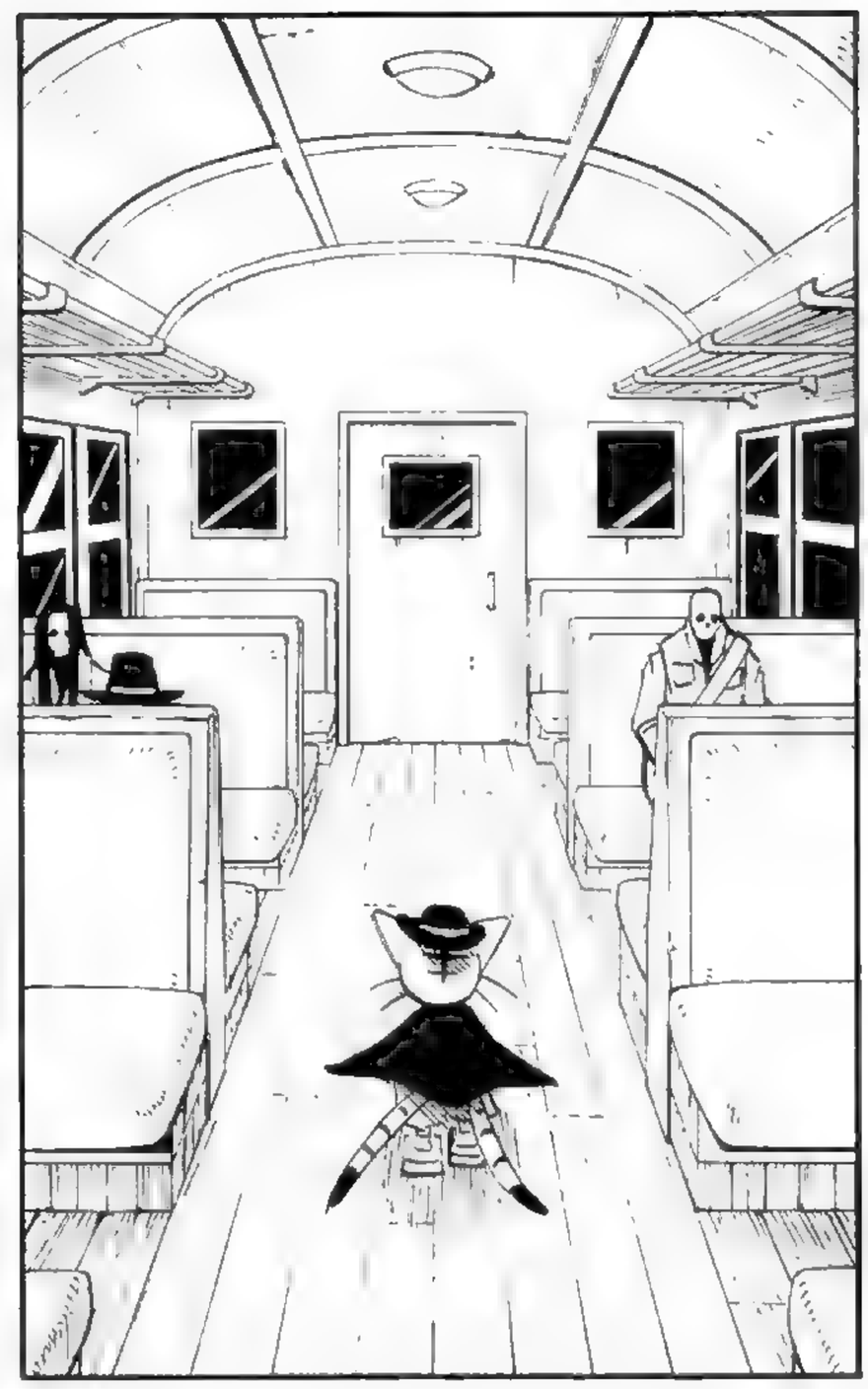

DD5 1154
FSHHH

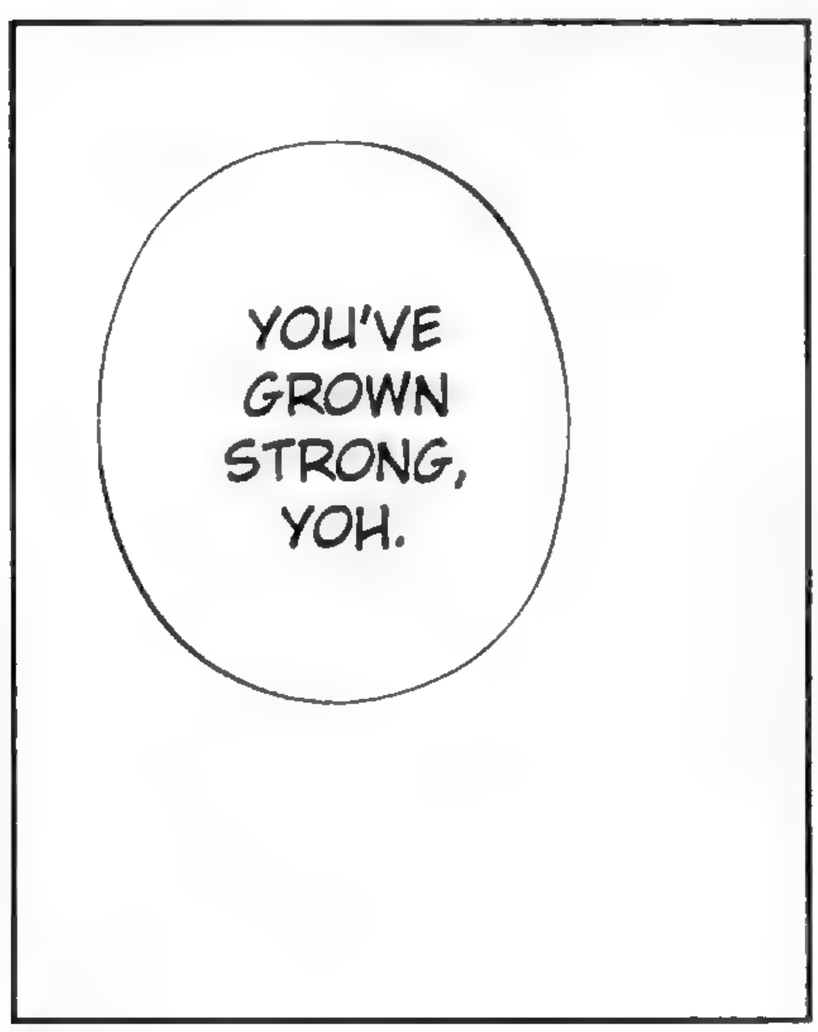

...THOUGH I DO IT RELUCTANTLY.
I MUST GO NOW ...


IF I STAYED HERE, I WOULD END UP LIKE YOU, YOKEN.
...BY THE GUILT YOU FEEL FOR HAVING TAKEN A HUMAN LIFE.
YOU ARE BOUND TO THIS COMMUNE OF HELL...

YOU WILL BE SAVED.

HE HAS ALREADY ROCKED YOUR CONFI-DENCE.





I CAN'T HELP YOU AT THIS TIME, BUT ....

...I EAGERLY AWAIT THE DAY...

...
WHEN YOU SUMMON ME.

...OF A SWAN.

IT REMINDS ME...

THE OVER SOUL ON YOUR LEFT ARM GREW INTO A GIANT SWORD.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE THAT WAS THE NAME OF THE DRIVE-IN MY DAD TOOK ME TO WHEN I WAS LITTLE...

...OR BECAUSE MY MOM USED TO TAKE ME TO RIDE THE SWAN BOATS.

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED SWANS FOR SOME REASON.

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE MATERIAL OBJECTS CHANGING MASS.

ANYWAY, IT'S NOT EASY TO CHANGE THE SIZE OF AN OVER SOUL DURING COMBAT.

KAK

... HARUSAME IN MY RIGHT ...

FUTSU-NO-MITAMA IN MY LEFT HAND...

KAK

SO I TRIED TO THINK OF SOMETHING THAT COULD FIGHT VARIOUS ENEMIES WHILE CHANGING AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE.

KAK

THIS IS MY NEW TWO-PART MEDIUM.

...I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT IT CAN DO.
AND NOW ...

Shaman King

HARUSAME IN HIS RIGHT...

FUTSU-NO-MITAMA IN HIS LEFT HAND...

Reincarnation 237: What's Wrong with a Memorial?

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING FUN.

...

THIS ONE IS STRONG!

I AM.

I'M CONVINCED THAT DEFEATING YOU WILL ALLOW ME TO ESCAPE.

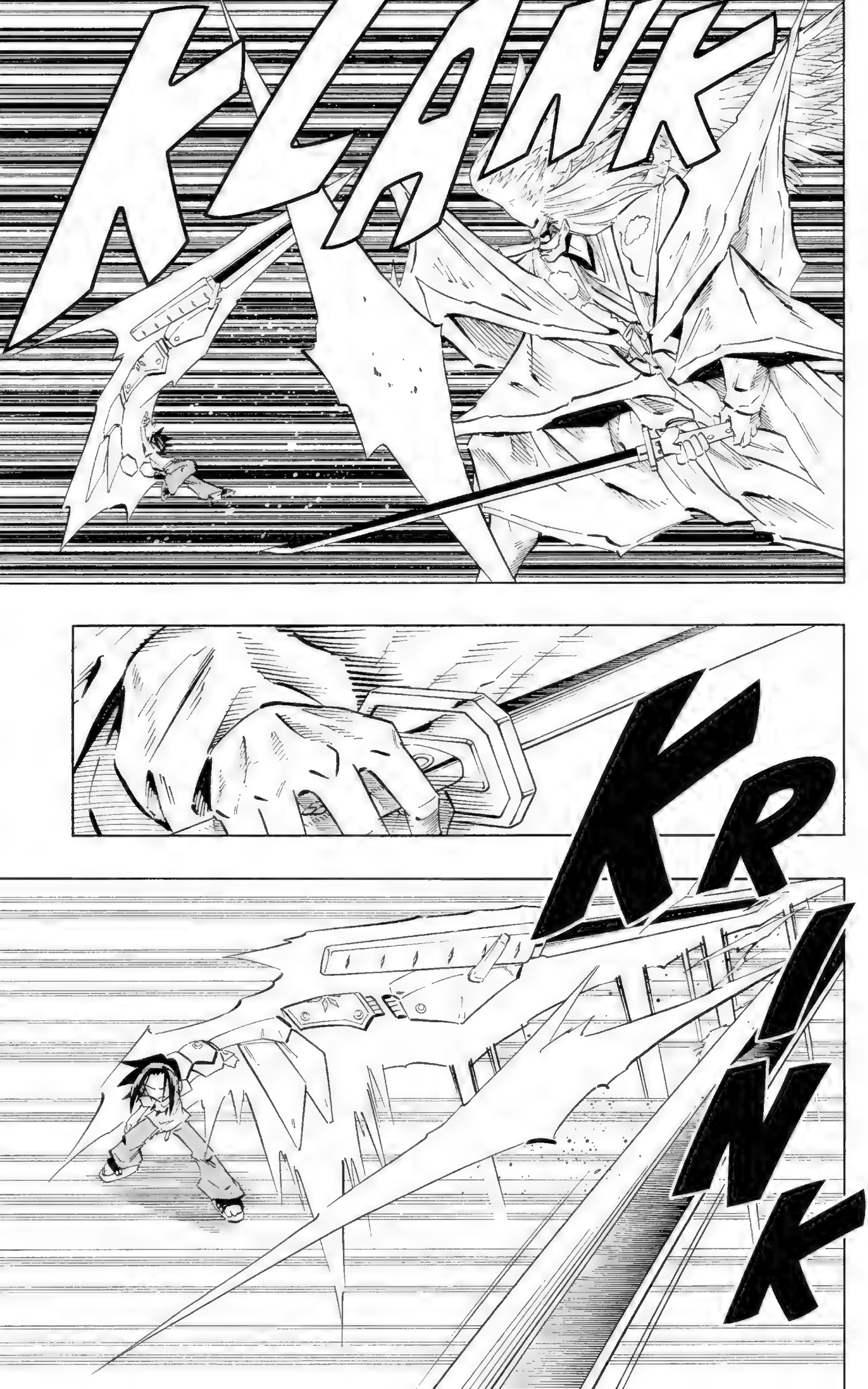
I'VE FINALLY MET A WORTHY OPPONENT.

...WHEN THIS IS ALL SETTLED.

WE'LL SEE...

Reincarnation 237: What's Wrong with a Memorial?

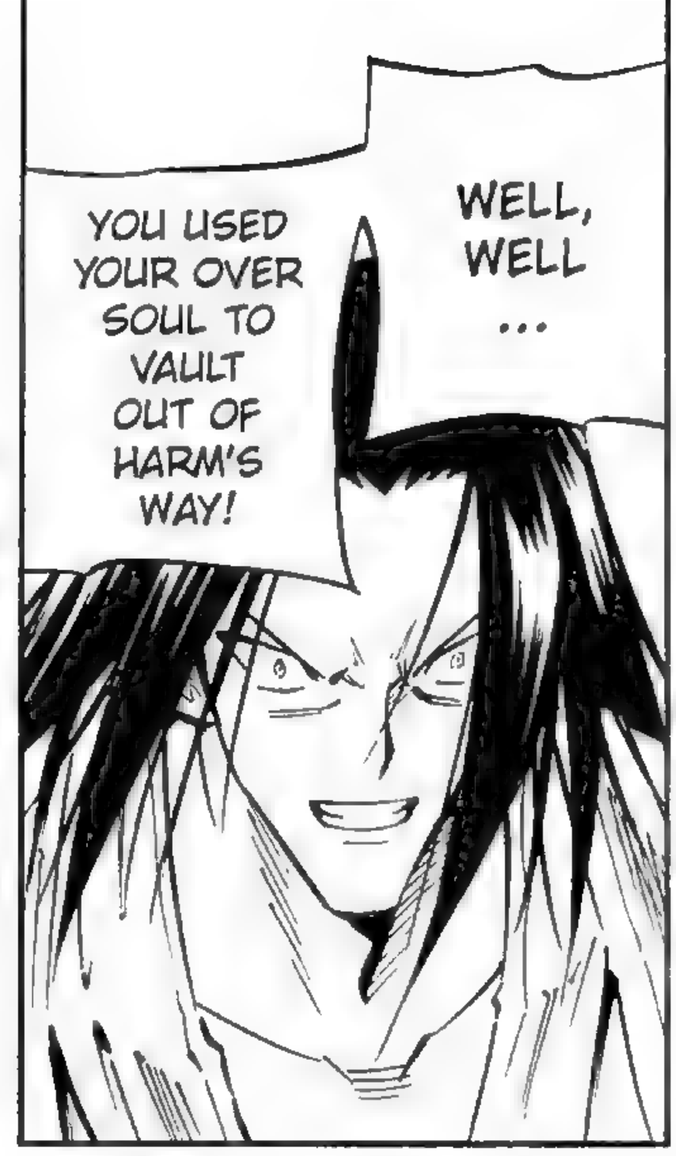
GRAAAH !!
KOOM


FLANK
KR
AK

WOOSH
UNH!
KREK
KROOM
WAH!

THAT ODD SHAPE HAS ITS USES.
FASCI-NAT-ING.

YOU LIKE THAT?


YOU USED YOUR OVER SOUL TO VAULT OUT OF HARM'S WAY!
WELL, WELL ...

WHAT A PLEASURE THIS IS!

THEN TAKE THIS!

... THAT FINISHED HAO!
THE MOVE ...

LET'S SEE IT.

BUT IF I CAN'T HANDLE THIS, THERE'S NO POINT IN RETURNING TO LIFE.

MAY THOSE WHO PRESIDE OVER ALL WARRIORS PROTECT ME!

ASCETIC...
WEASEL
WHIRLWIND
SLASH!

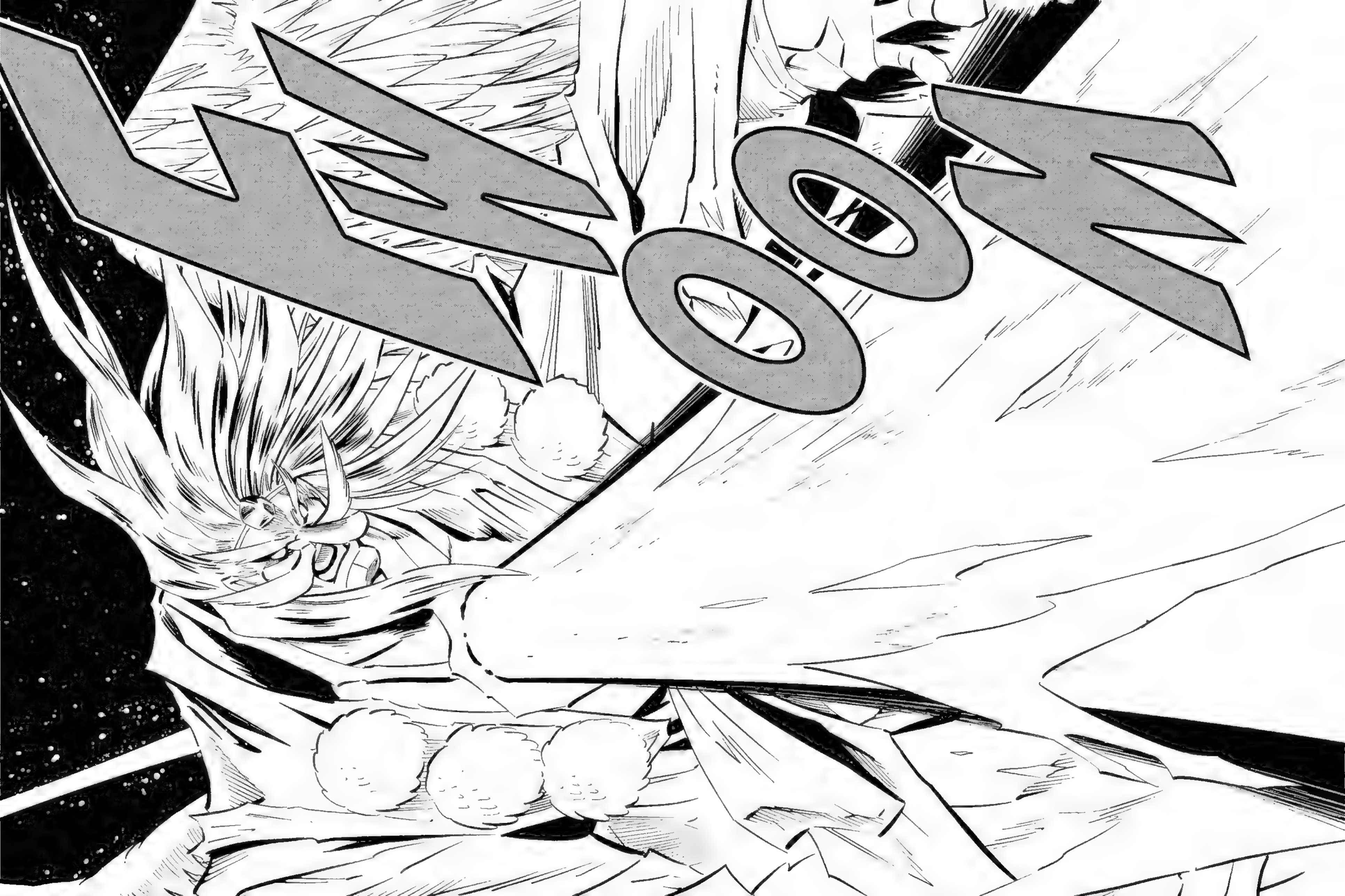
WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM

GRAAAH!

SHLINK

WHAN
GANG

AMIDA-
STYLE...!


ドゴォ

...
SHWOOO
!
NAFAVADYA!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE ?!

THE POWER OF PURIFICATION?!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

COULD HE REALLY BE AN ASAKURA ?!

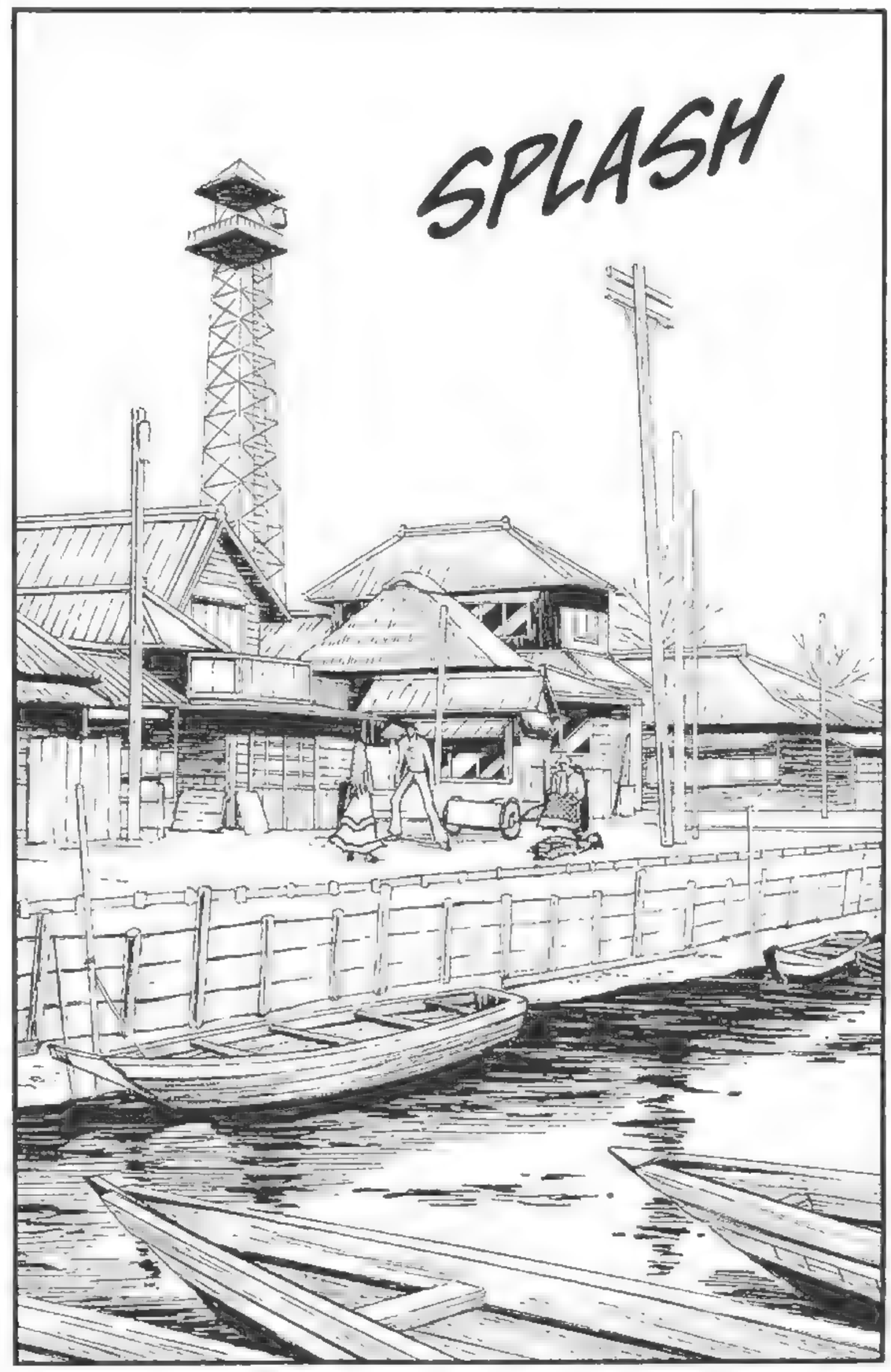
HUFF

THIS BOY...

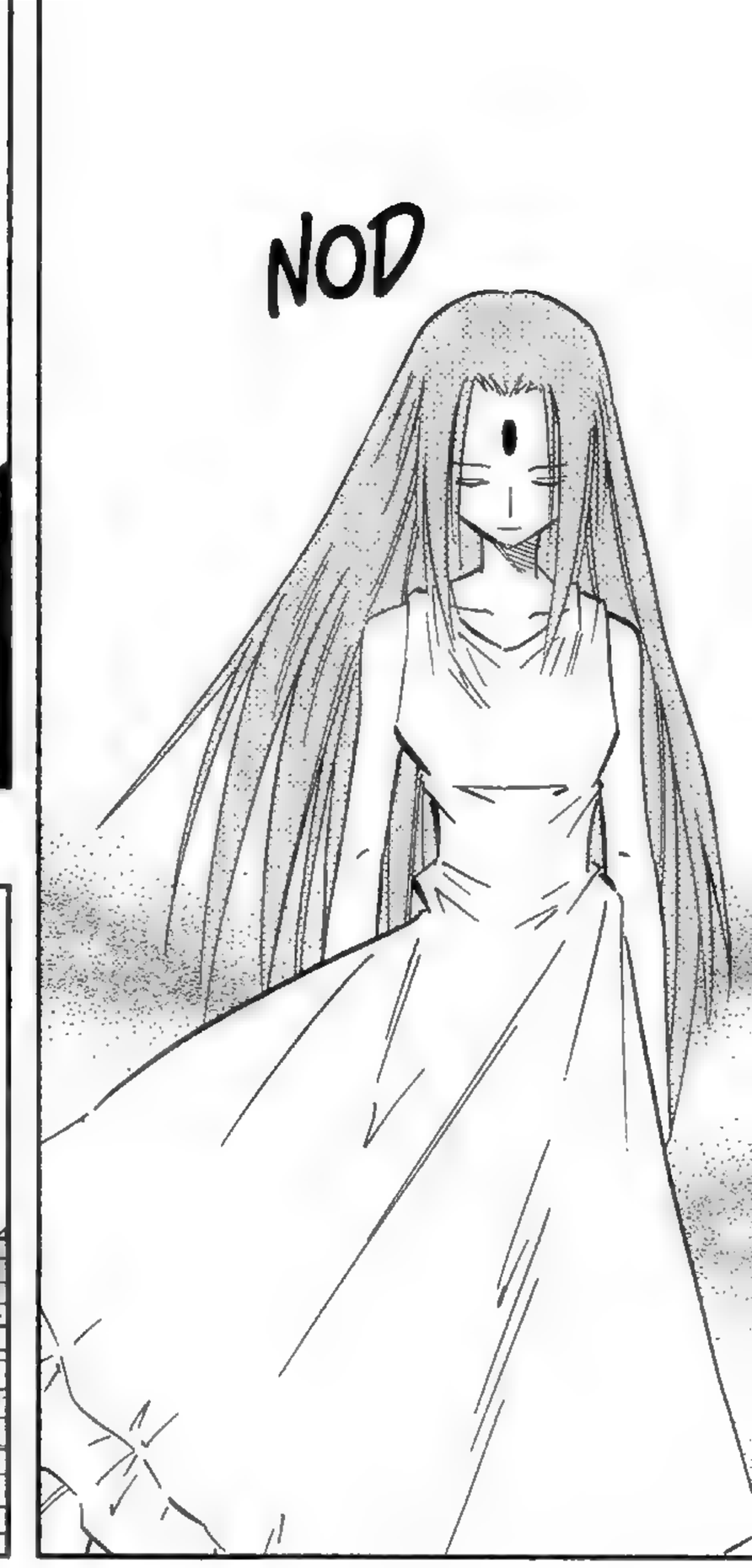
HUFF

OKAY?

I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.



ONE HIGH SPIRIT PER WARRIOR ...
THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO DEFEAT HAO.


NOD

HAO WILL SLEEP WHEN HE MERGES WITH THE GREAT SPIRIT.
HOLD ON. ISN'T HAO'S SPIRIT OF FIRE ONE OF THEM ?

WE MUST GET THEM AT ALL COSTS AND GIVE THEM TO THE FIVE WARRIORS.
SPIRIT OF FIRE AND THE OTHER FOUR HIGH SPIRITS WILL BE WITHOUT A MASTER.

WHAT?
...

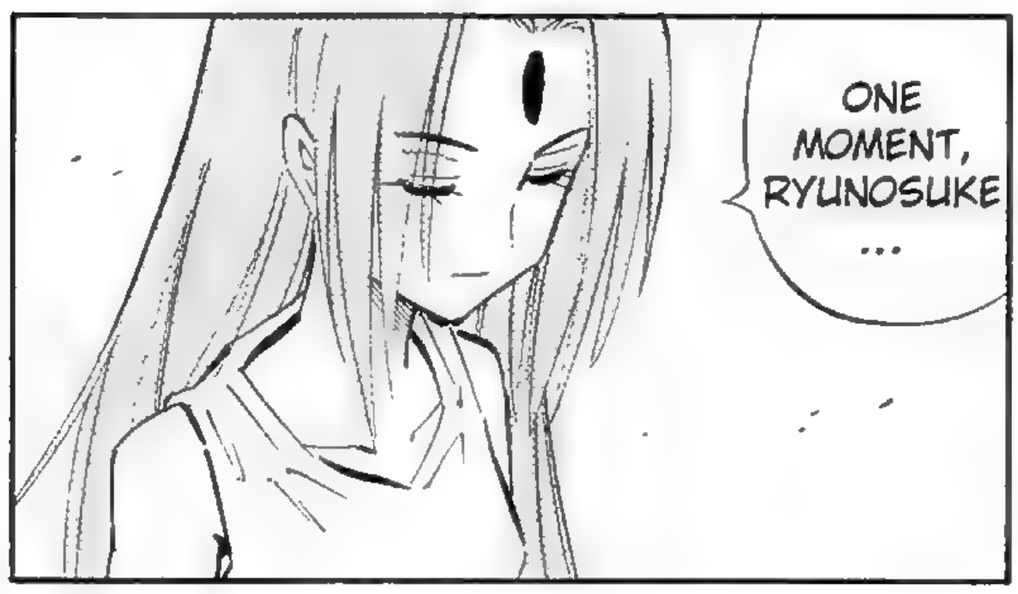
...IN THE SHAMAN FIGHT.
THAT IS GANDALA'S MISSION ...

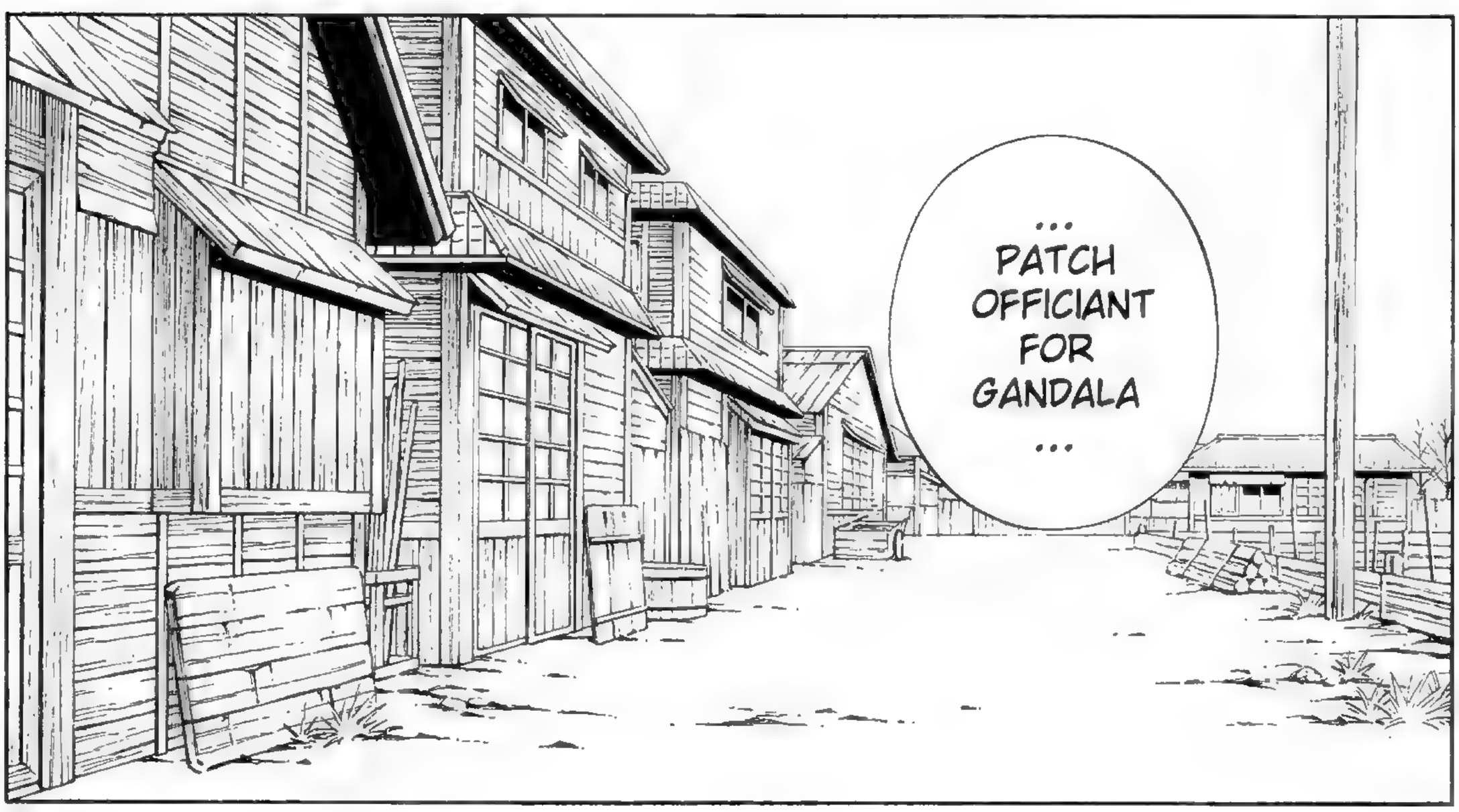
I DON'T CARE WHO BECOMES SHAMAN KING.

I WANT TO SAVE EVERYONE.

Shaman King

Reincarnation 238: Remain Neutral





SWUP

...LEAD.

OOPS.

YOU CAUGHT ME.

Reincarnation 238: Remain Neutral

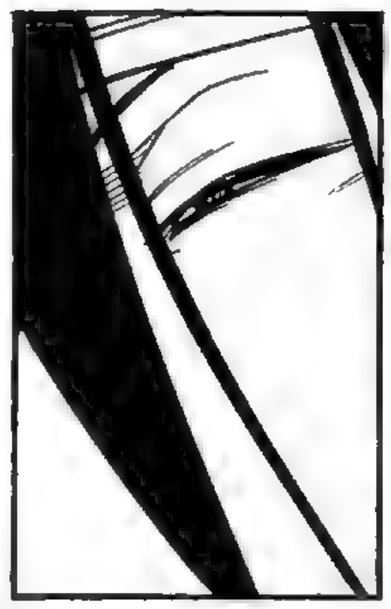
I'M COMPLETELY NEUTRAL.

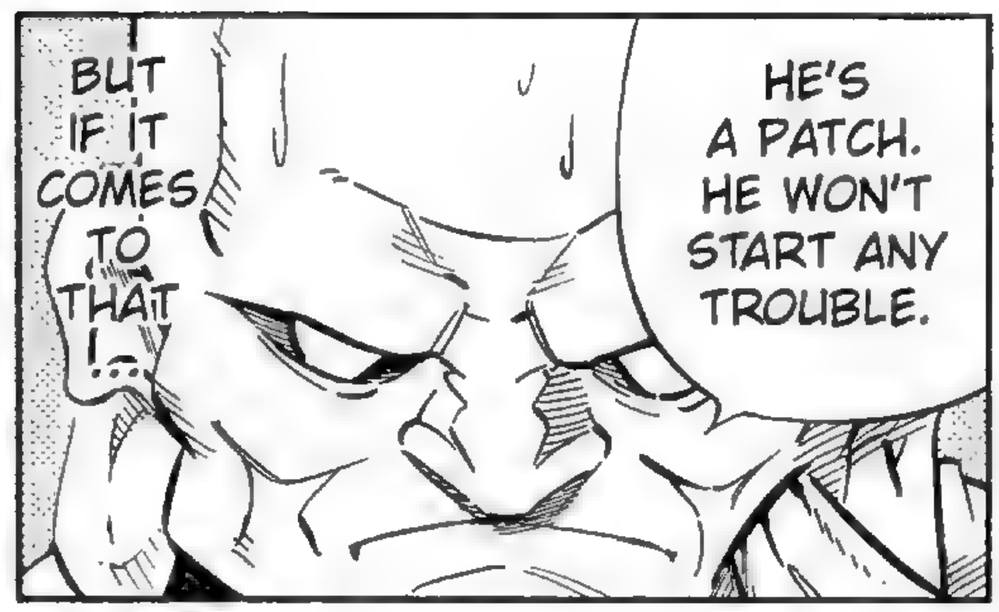
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO FIGHT.

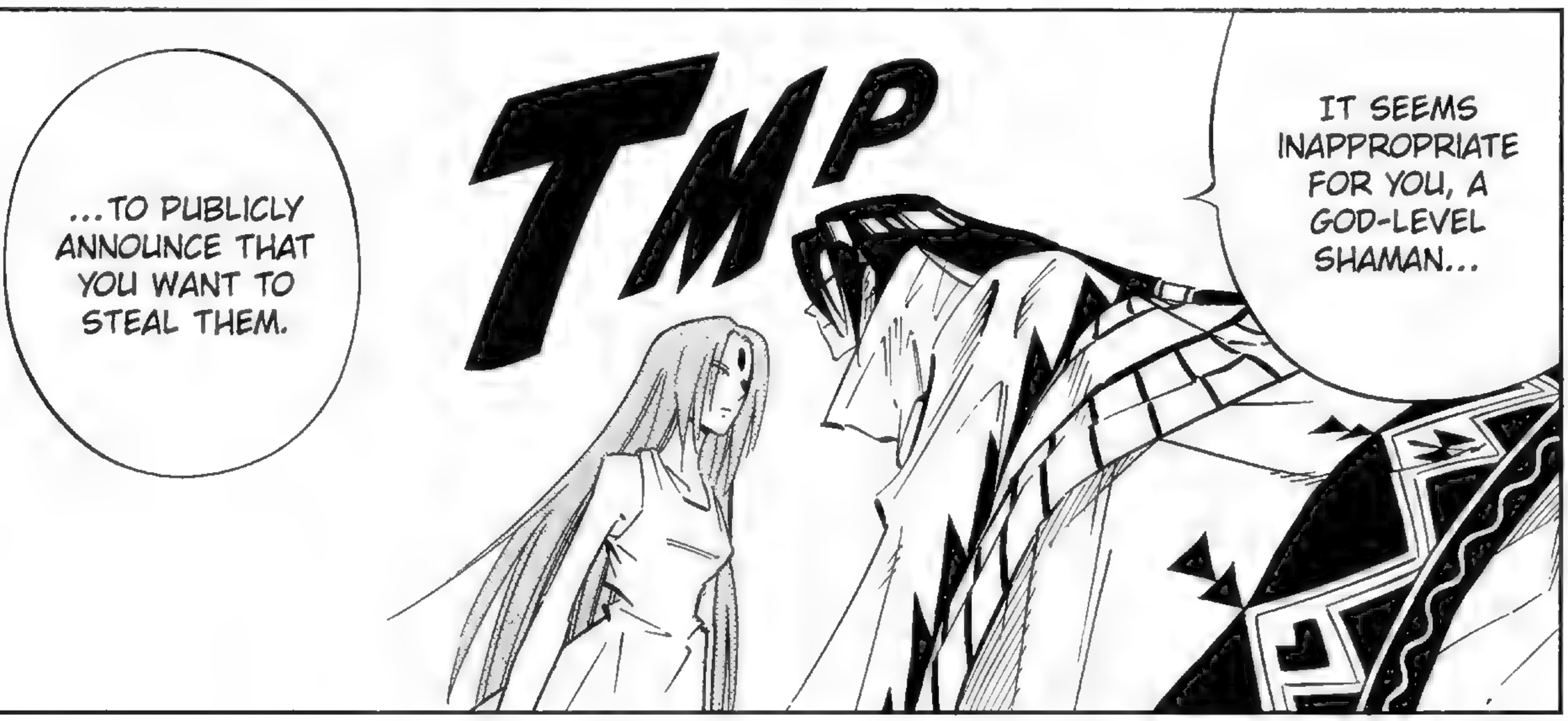
WHEN DID YOU ...

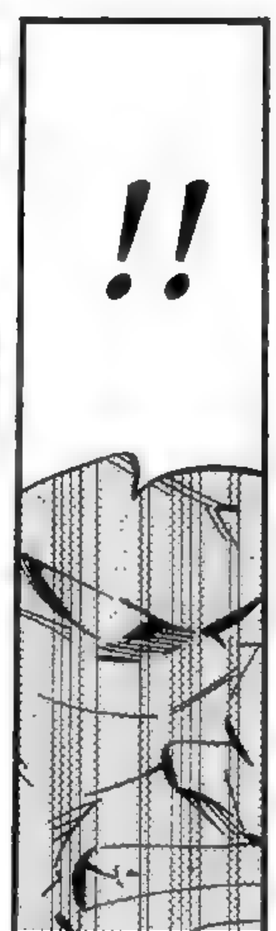
THERE'S NO REASON TO GET EXCITED.

HOWEVER, THE HIGH SPIRITS BELONG TO THE PATCH. THEY MEAN A GREAT DEAL TO US.









I REMAIN NEUTRAL.
DOOM

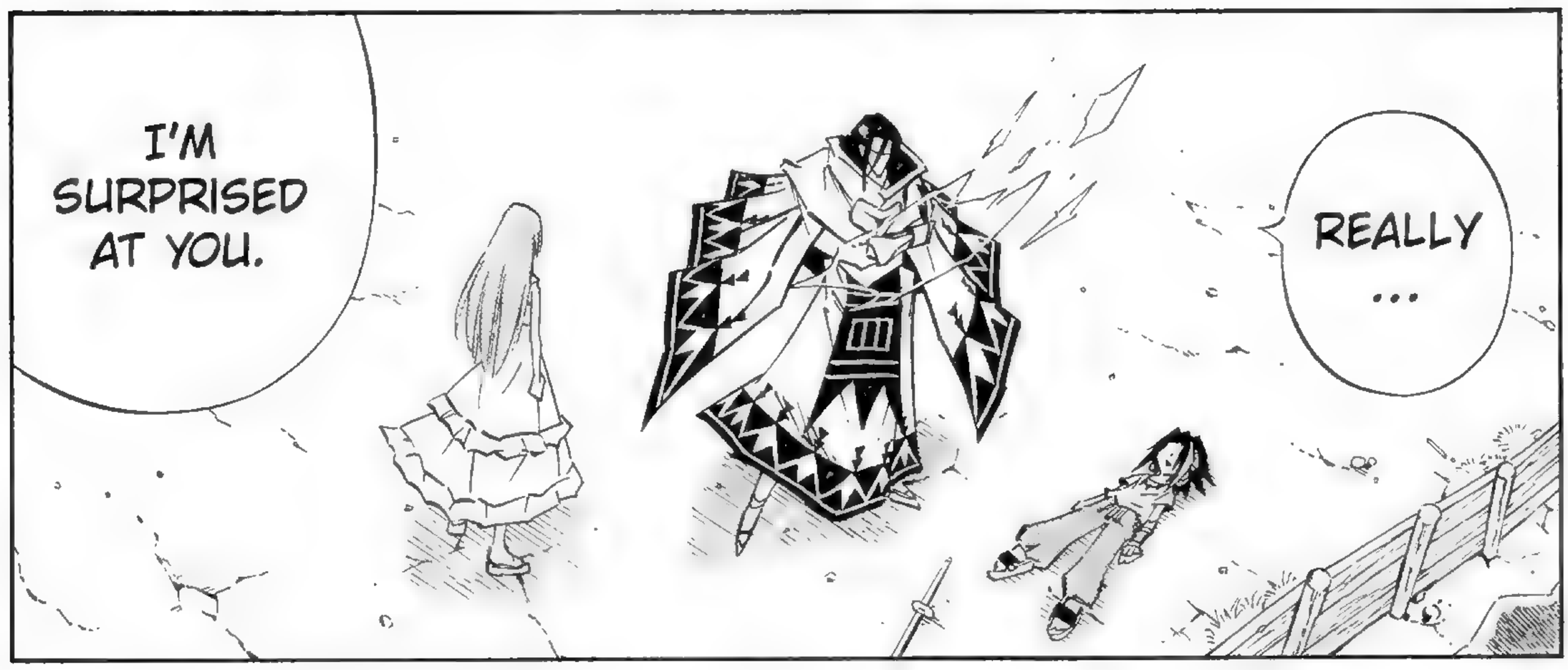
...
SNAKE !

...RYU.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO FIGHT THE SHAMAN KING...
...YOU'LL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO FACE HIM...
THAT'S MY COBRA SPIRIT, RED ROPE.

HE'S GOOD !!

...THE BETTER OF ME!
HE GOT ...


I'M SURPRISED AT YOU.
REALLY ...

...WHAT WE'RE CAPABLE OF.

SATI, YOU KNOW...

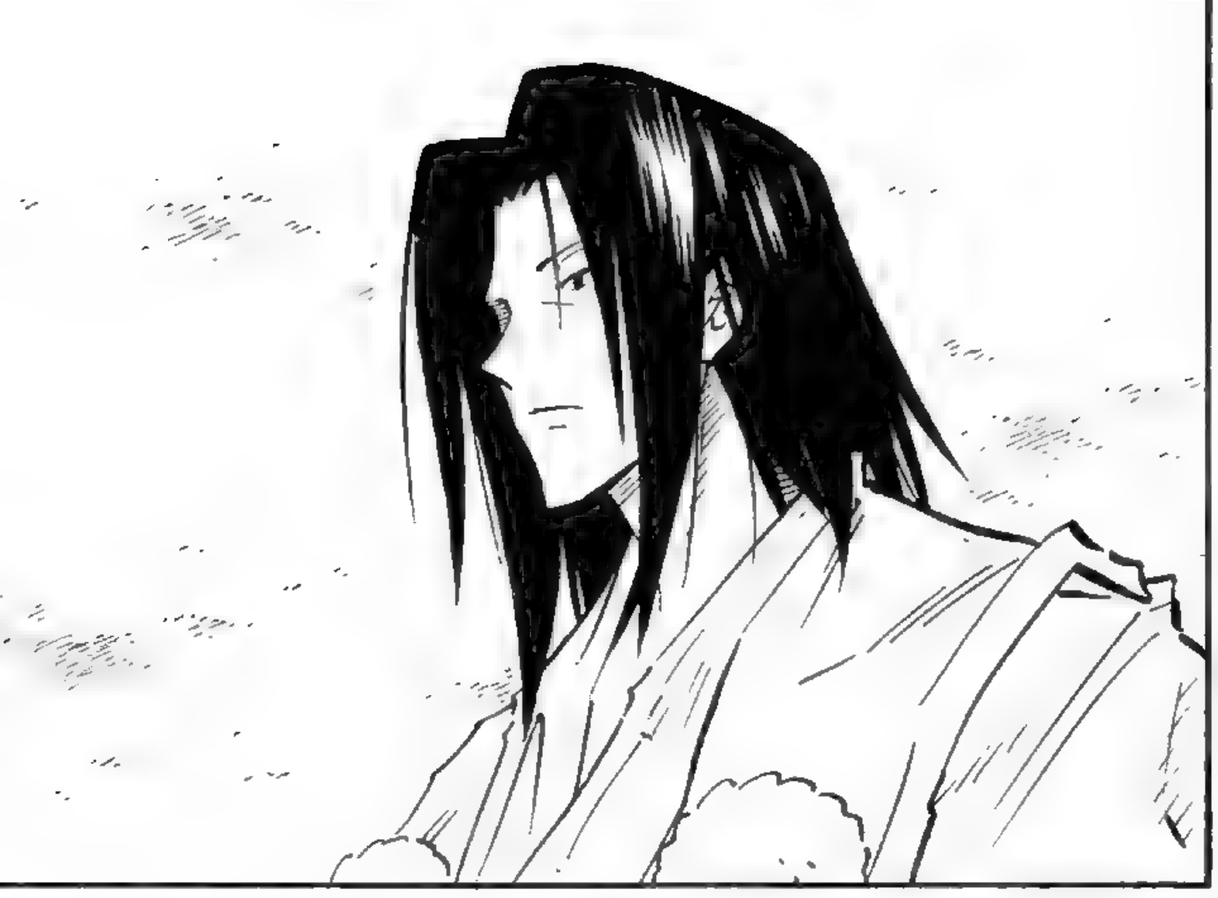
YOU ACTUALLY KILLED THIS BOY TO FURTHER YOUR PLAN.
BUT DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK.

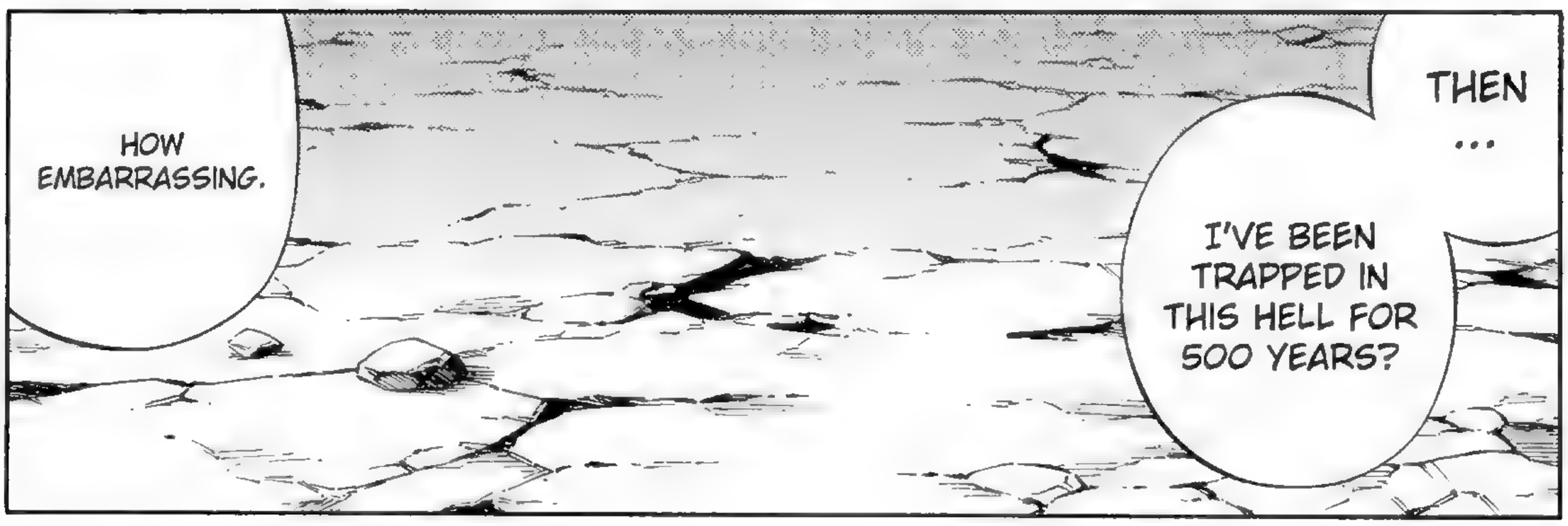
THAT'S WHAT I CAME TO TELL YOU. HAVE A NICE DAY.

AS FOR THE NEXT MATCH, X-II NO LONGER EXISTS...

...SO TATHAGATA WILL FIGHT THE KABBALAHERS.

WHA...

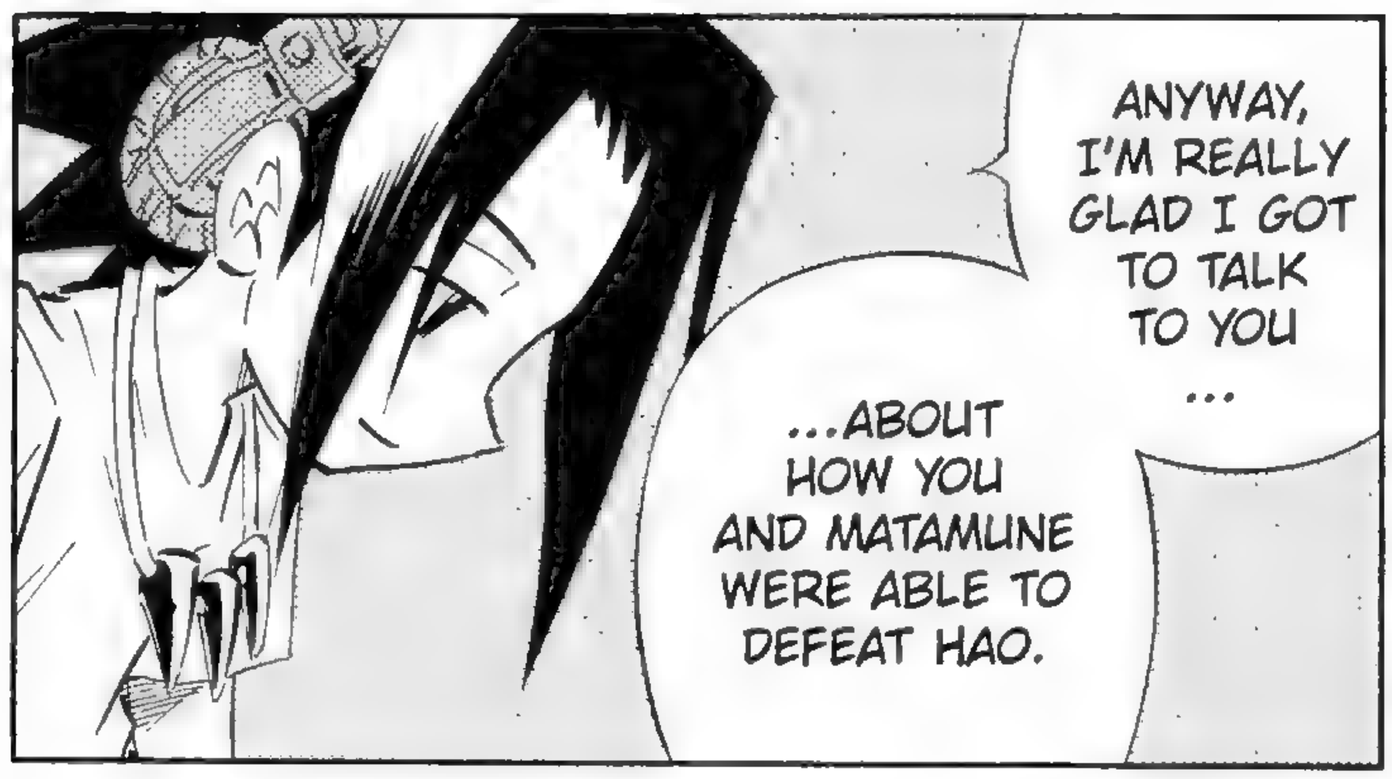



HOW EMBARRASSING.
THEN ...
I'VE BEEN TRAPPED IN THIS HELL FOR 500 YEARS?

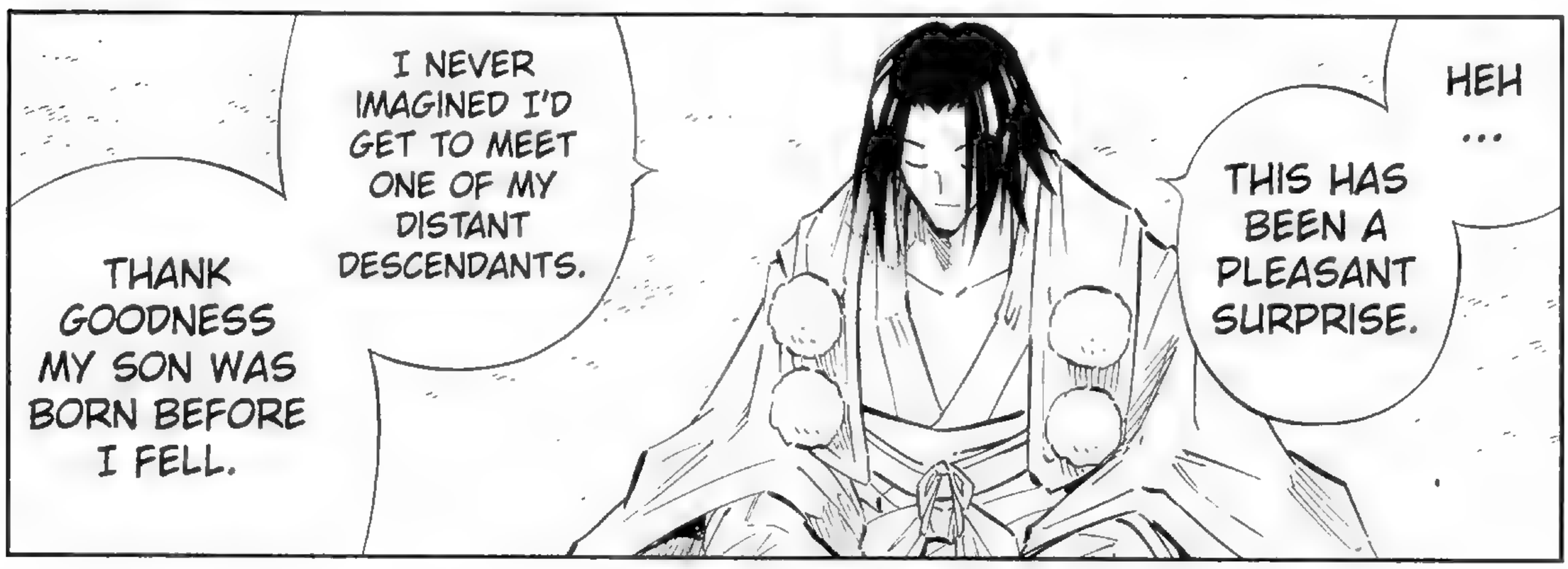
... WEAK.
I AM ...

I WAS OVERCOME WITH REMORSE ...
...FOR HAVING DEFEATED HAO.

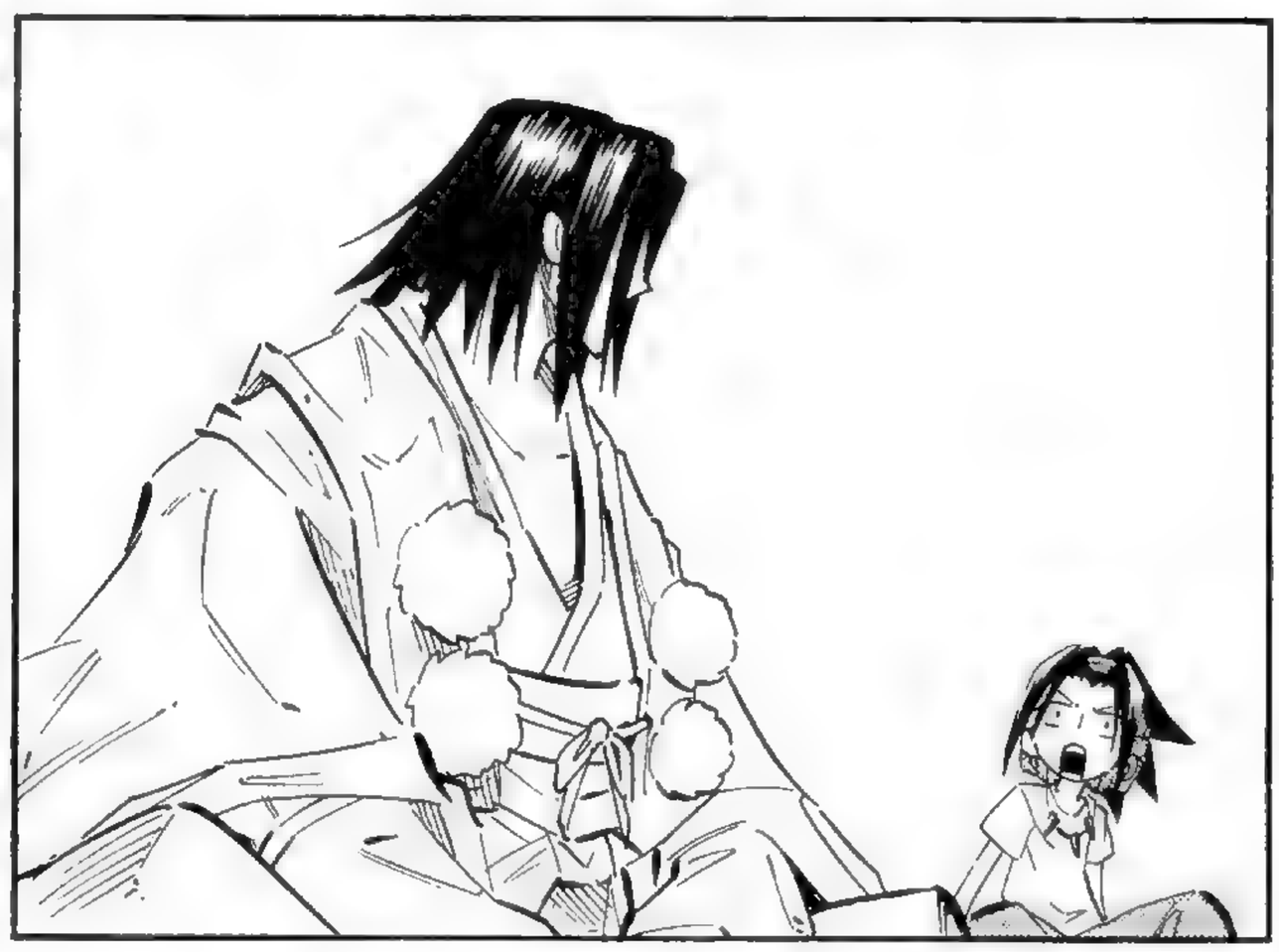
...THAT I WAS BLINDED BY SELF-PITY AND ARROGANCE.
I SEE NOW ...


ANYWAY, I'M REALLY GLAD I GOT TO TALK TO YOU ...
...ABOUT HOW YOU AND MATAMUNE WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT HAO.

DON'T FEEL BAD.


THANK GOODNESS MY SON WAS BORN BEFORE I FELL.
I NEVER IMAGINED I'D GET TO MEET ONE OF MY DISTANT DESCENDANTS.
THIS HAS BEEN A PLEASANT SURPRISE.
HEH ...

DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN?
YOH ...



ZANG

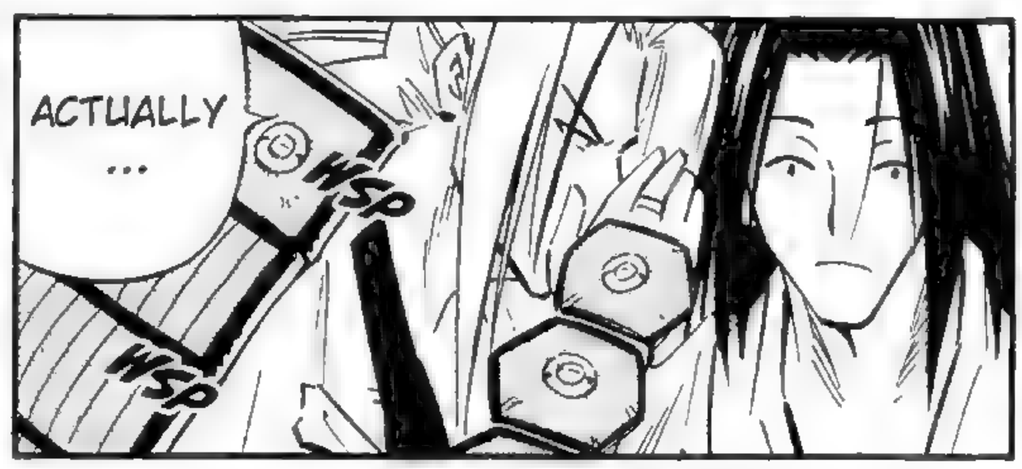
LORD YOKEN ...

YES...

WHAT?! NO! I MEAN ...

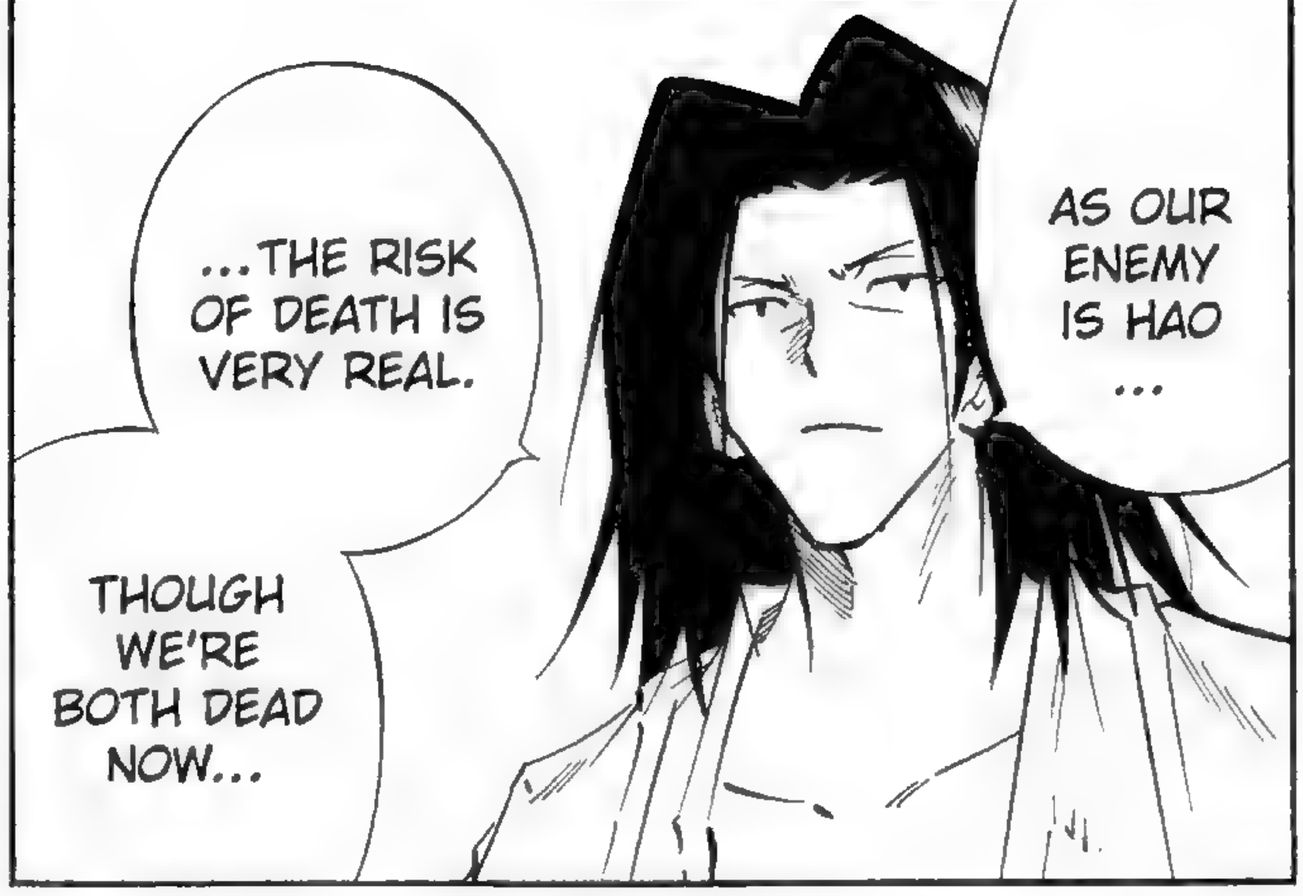
WUMP WUMP

I DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT IT!



THAT'S GOOD.

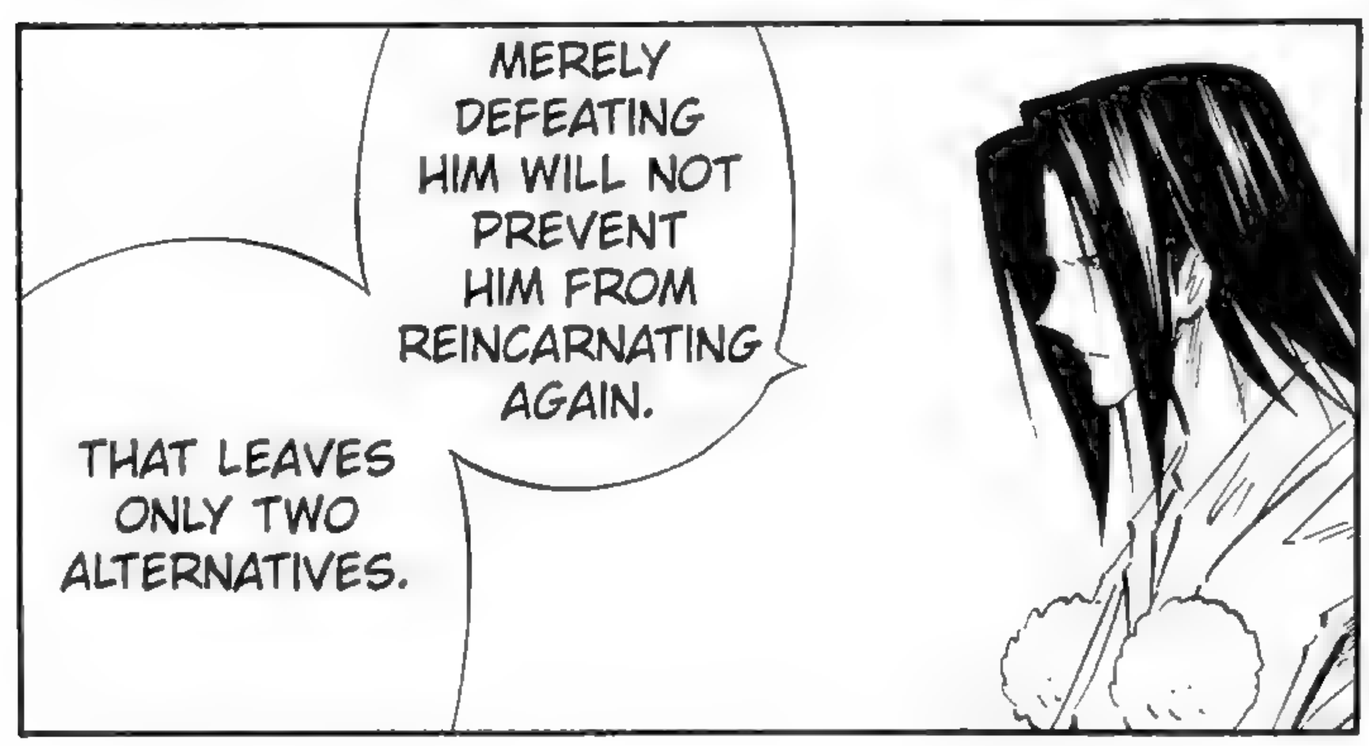
I SEE.


...THE RISK OF DEATH IS VERY REAL.
AS OUR ENEMY IS HAO ...
THOUGH WE'RE BOTH DEAD NOW...

IT'S BEEN 500 YEARS.

WHUP

AS I FEARED ...
...HAO HAS RETURNED TO THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.


MERELY DEFEATING HIM WILL NOT PREVENT HIM FROM REINCARNATING AGAIN.
THAT LEAVES ONLY TWO ALTERNATIVES.

ACTUALLY, HE'S MY TWIN BROTHER.
YEAH.

EITHER HAO'S SOUL MUST BE COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED, OR...

MY HEART TELLS ME TO TRY IT.

YOU MEAN THIS?

FOOMF

?

DO YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF OUR FAMILY CREST, WHICH IS ON YOUR OVER SOUL?

YOH ...

AMIDAMARU ...

YES.

HAO CREATED THE ORIGINAL ASAKURA FAMILY CREST, A PENTAGRAM, THE MARK OF ONMYODO, THE MYSTIC SCIENCES.

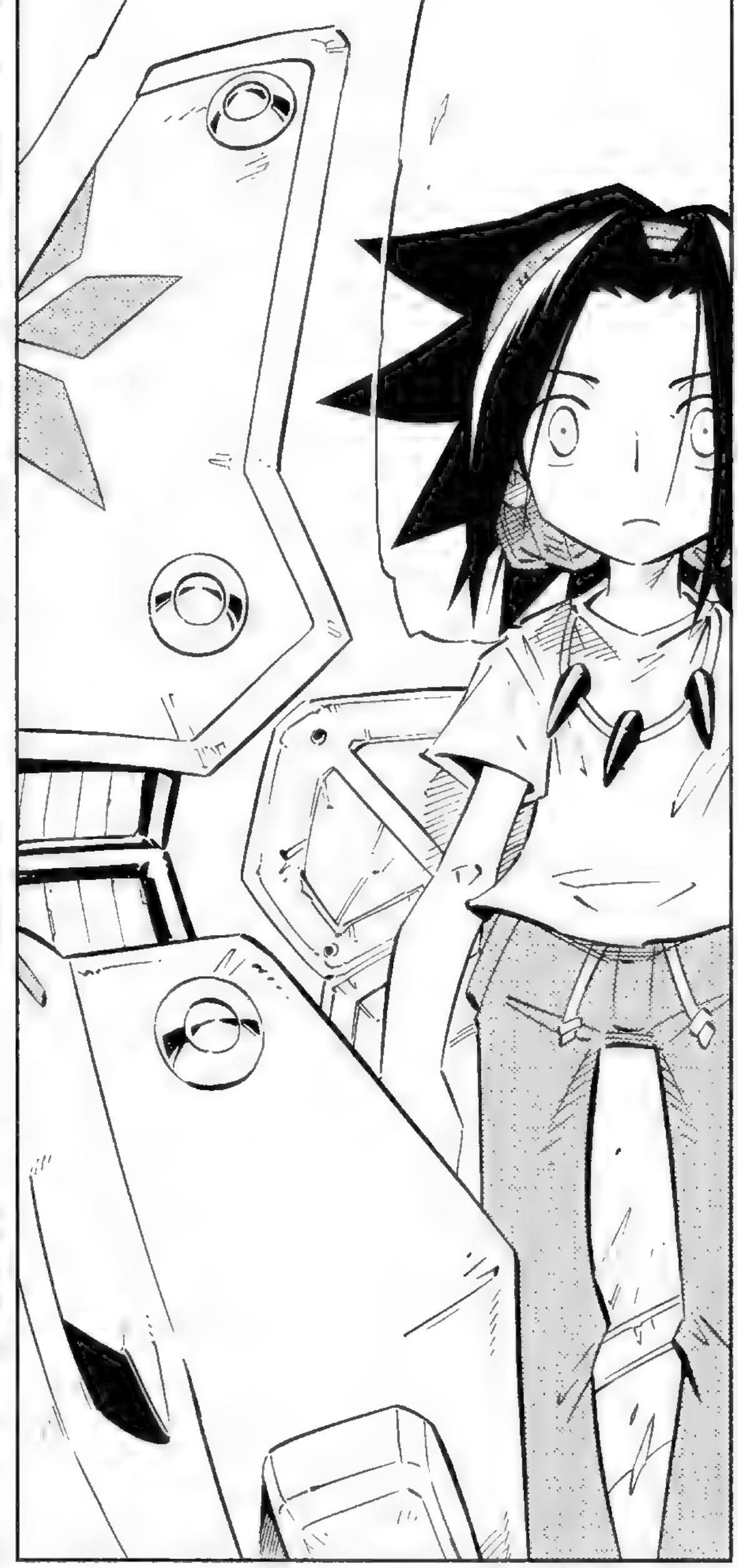
BUT HE ALSO REINVENTED THE ASAKURA FAMILY.

THE CREST WAS REDESIGNED AS A STAR-SHAPED TREE.

...HAO'S HEART.

SIMILARLY, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CHANGE...

KROOSH



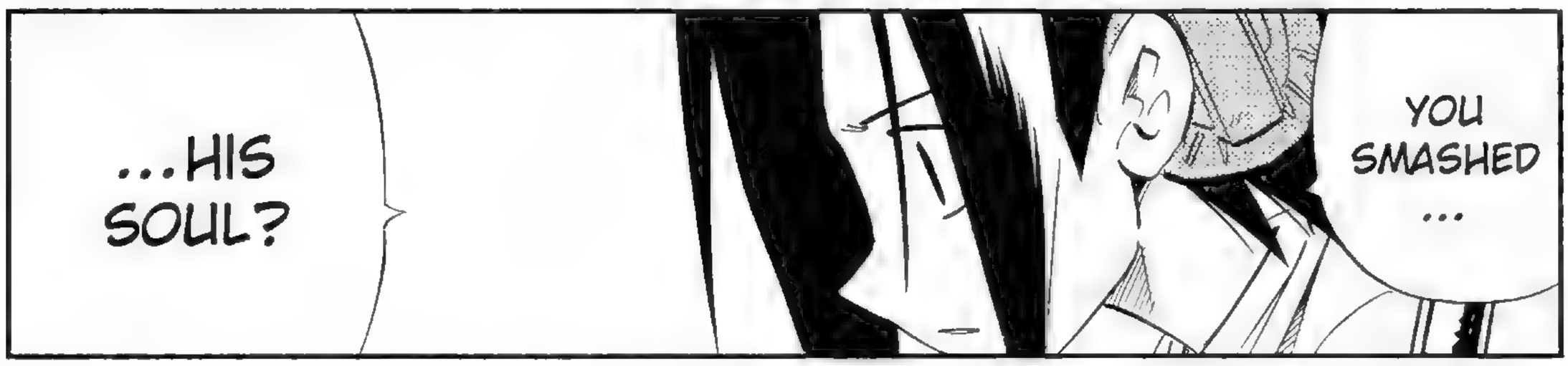
HOW LONG ARE YOU GUYS GONNA KEEP YAMMERING AND SLAPPING EACH OTHER ON THE BACK?
C'MON ...
DON'T YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN HELL?
WHAP

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

I'M GONNA TURN YOU INTO SOUL JELLY!

SHAMAN KING CHARACTER FILE No.141

Reincarnation 239: A Great Trial

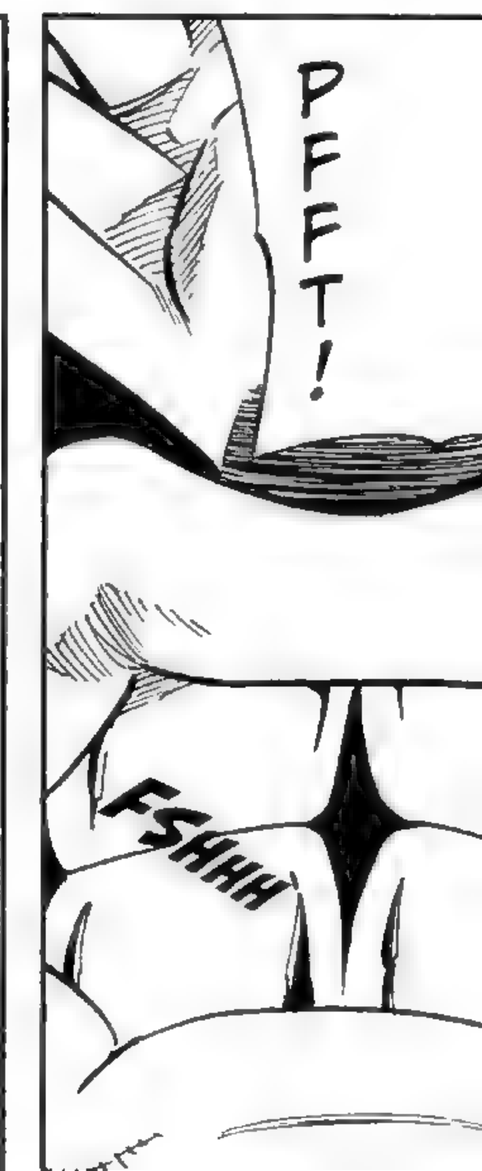


...
WHAT I DID ...

...TO YOUR FRIEND.

PLUP

PLUP



Reincarnation 239: A Great Trial

HA!

SO...

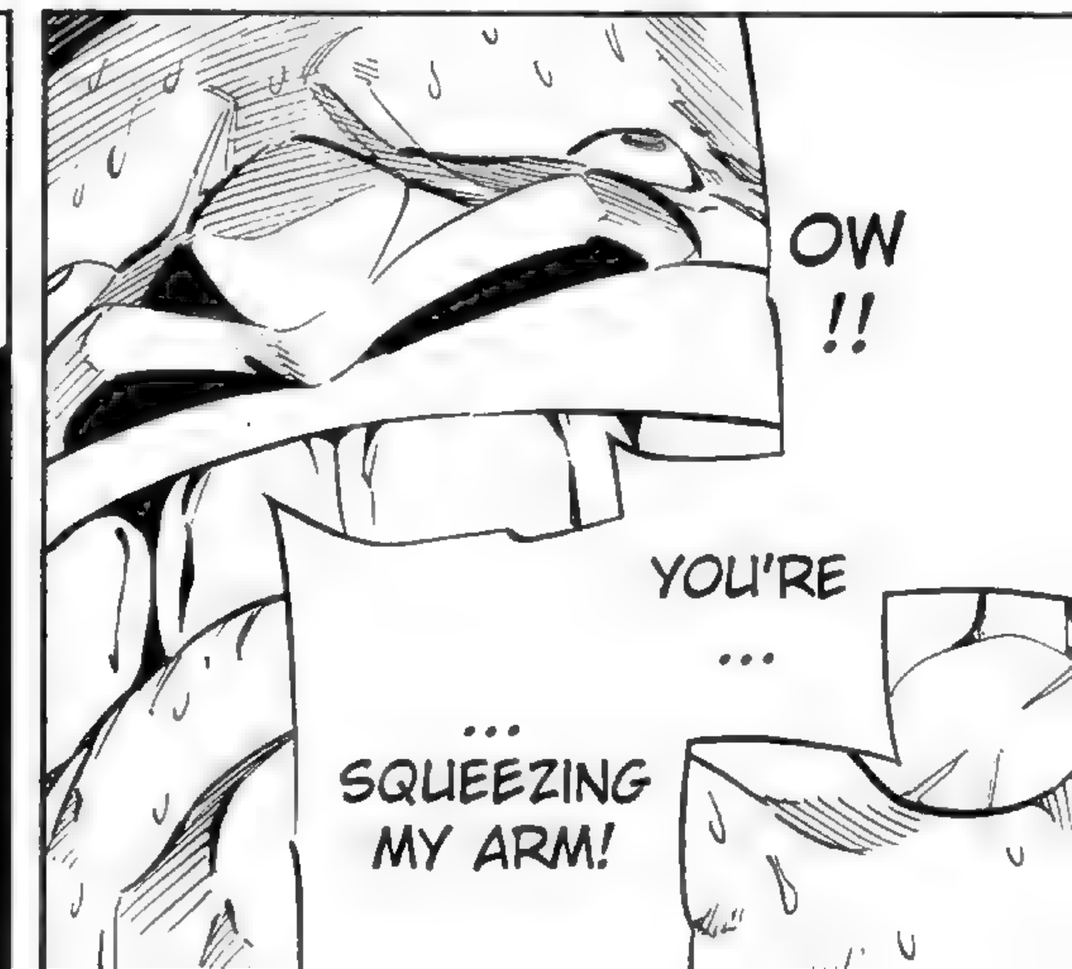
... YOKEN'S SOUL?
HOW DO I FIX...

WHOOM
THAT HURT, SHRIMP !!

UGH.

GAAAH!!

KKKKKK



GRR...

!

POP

IF YOU DIE IN HELL, YOU'RE FINISHED !!

SHOOM

I WAS LYING ANYWAY !!

I GUESS SO.

WOOSH

AMIDA-STYLE NA-AVIDYA ...

KLANG

YOKEN!

CHUNK

YOU'D BETTER START WORRYING ABOUT YOURSELF !

HEH HEH ...

PLURT

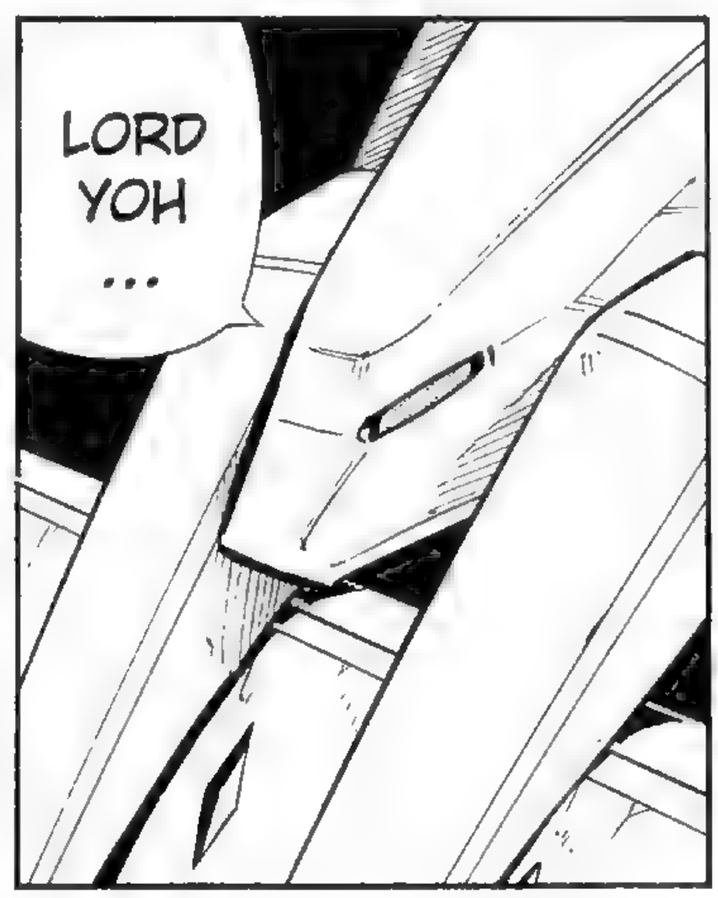
PLURT

NO, NO...
GROO

WE CAN'T HAVE YOU KILLING OUR OGRES. IT SETS A BAD EXAMPLE.
GROO

... TO DEFY HELL'S ULTRA OGRES?
WHAT SORT OF SOULS ARE YOU ...

KRK
I KNOW.


LORD YOH ...

SHLUK!

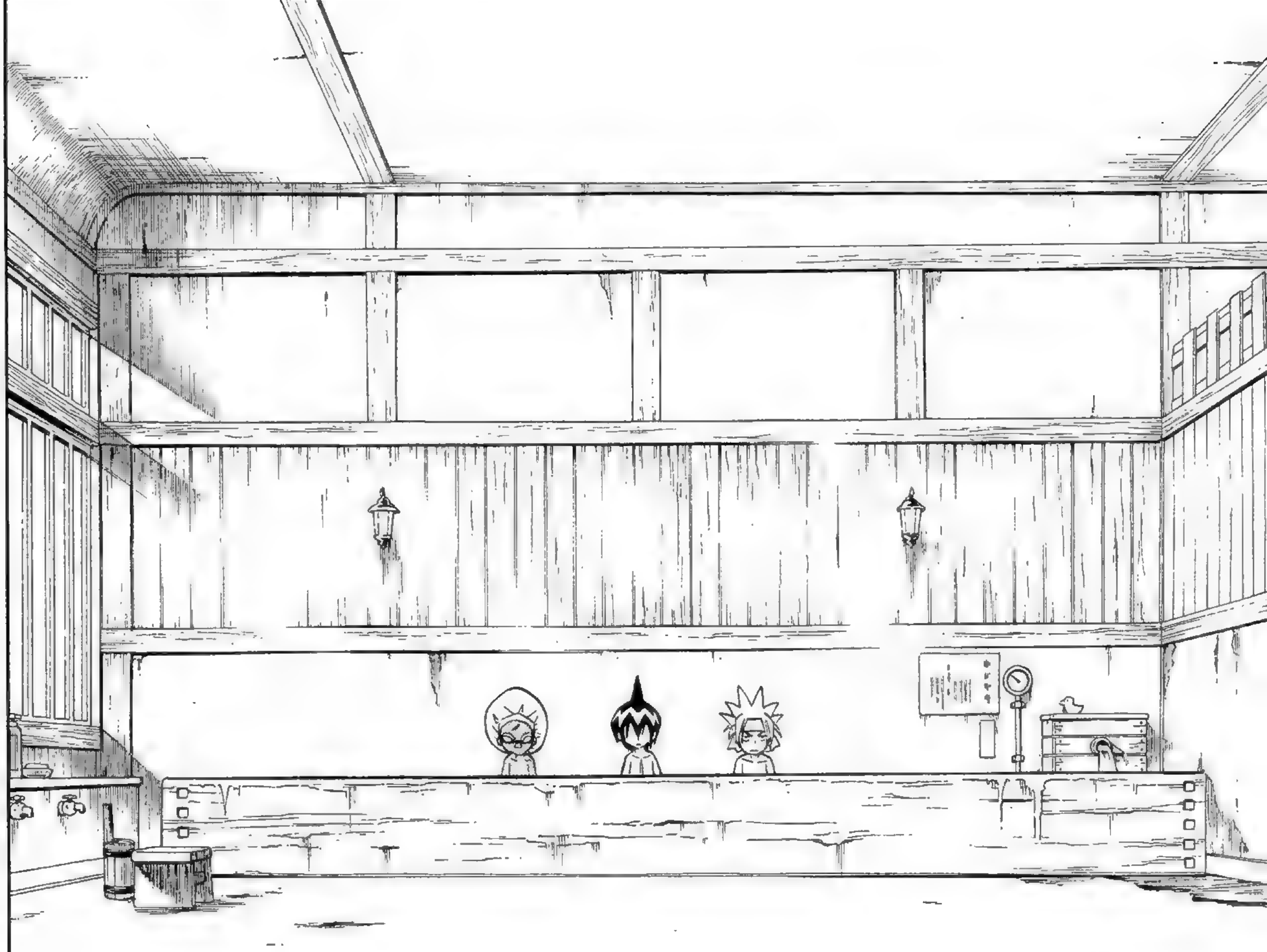
COME ON...

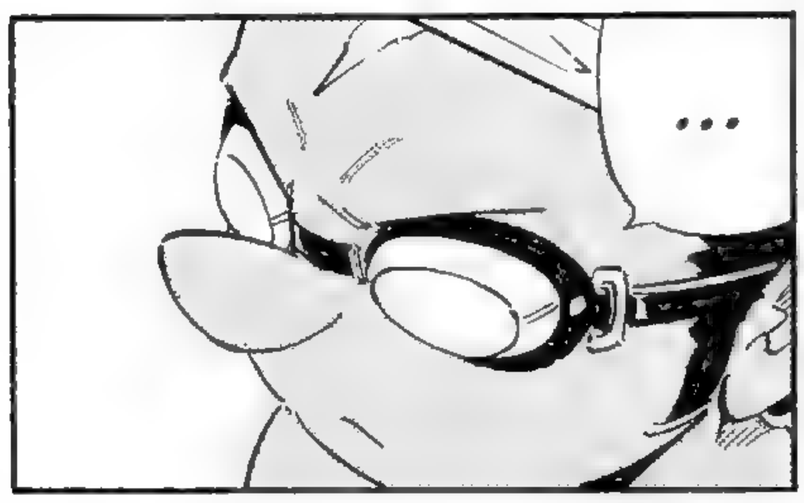
I DIDN'T...

...COME HERE TO BE EXTINGUISHED.

AS LONG AS MY SPIRIT STAYS STRONG, I WON'T DIE.

...AMIDAMARU!!




...

...

I...

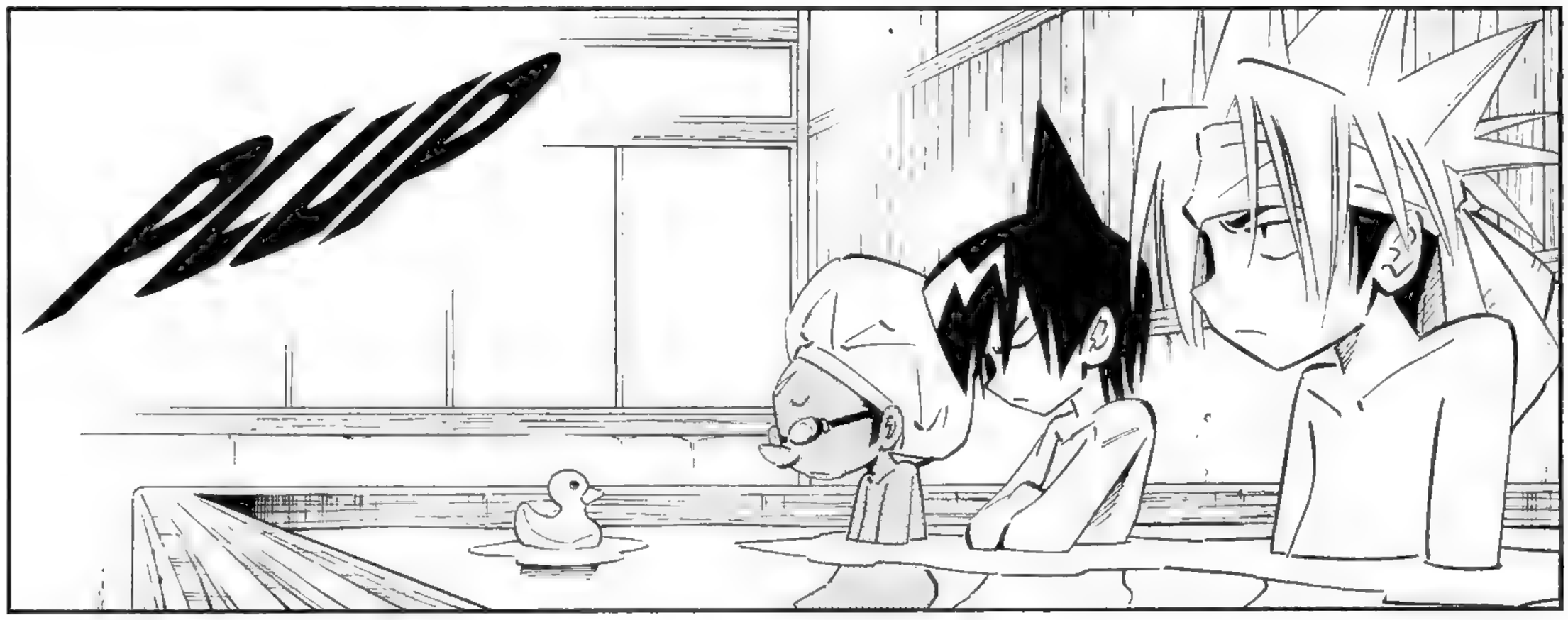
...

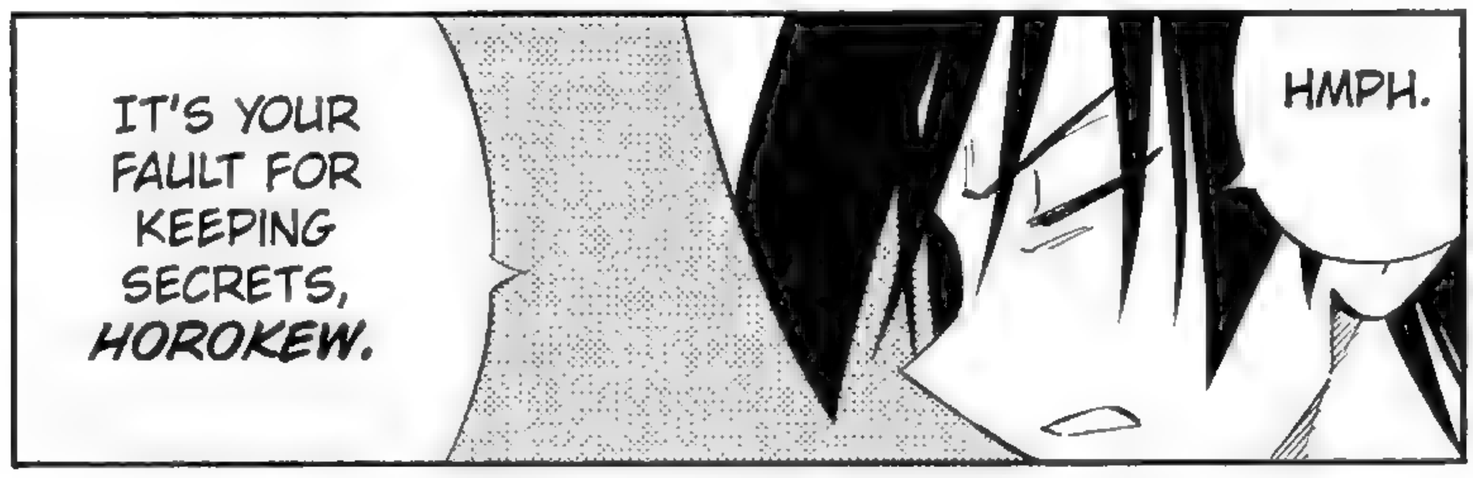
SIGH

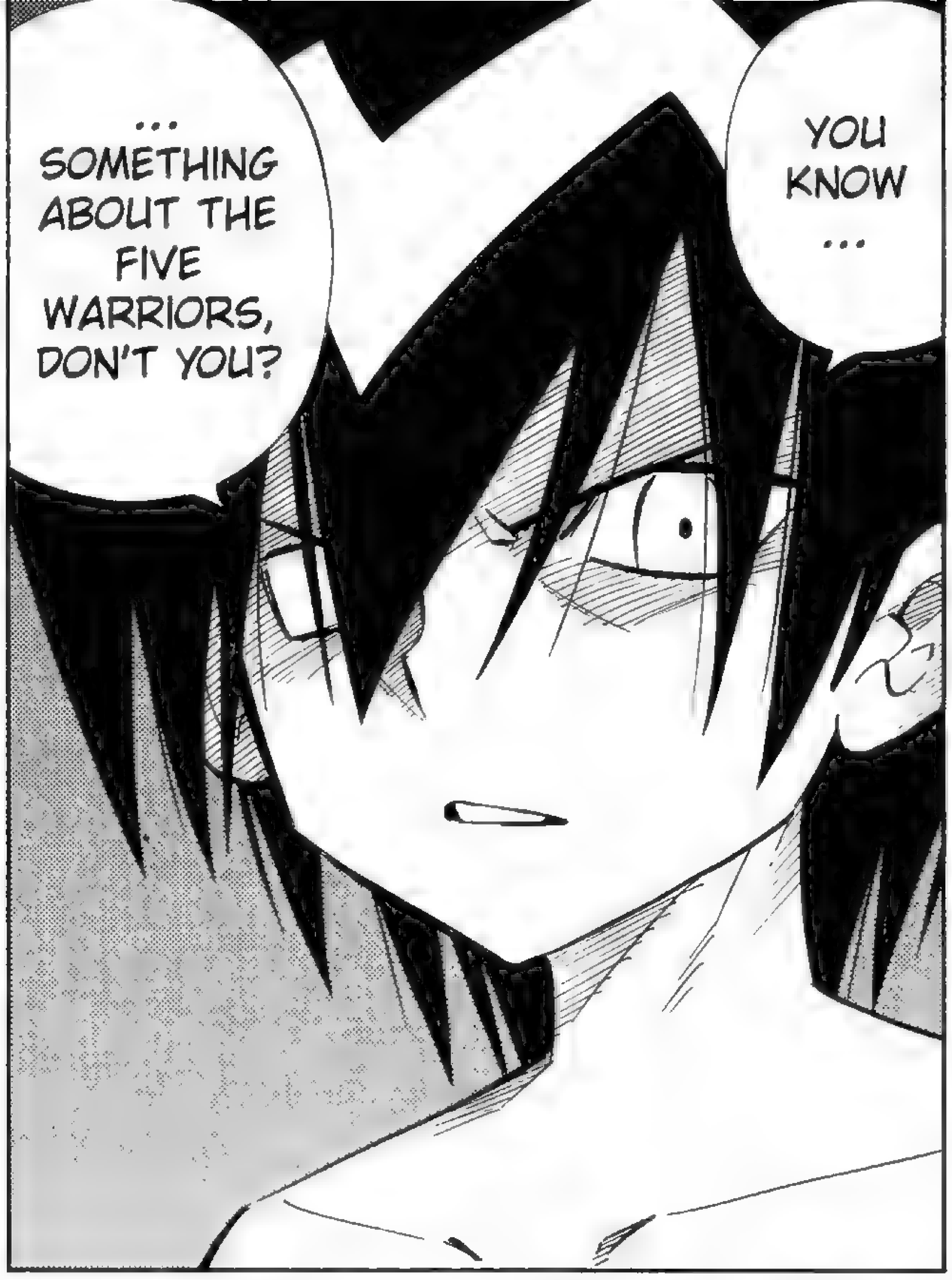
WHAT IS IT?

NOTHING.

WHAT ?






... SOMETHING ABOUT THE FIVE WARRIORS, DON'T YOU?
YOU KNOW ...

WOOO
JOCO ...

KLAKKA

W-
WELL...

...CAN ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.
WE ...

...IT'LL COST YOU.

BUT...

WE MAY HAVE LOST THE MATCH ...

...BUT YOU'RE NOT STRONGER THAN WE ARE.

WHAT?

TEAM ACALA !!

...AND YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE HERE ALIVE.

YOU'RE THREE OF THE FIVE WARRIORS ...

SATI, DO YOU KNOW?!

AND WHAT WAS THAT LIGHT?!

WHADDYA MEAN, X-II NO LONGER EXISTS?!

WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON?!

HOLD ON!!

NOT JUST X-II...

TMP

I...

...

THAT GUY WITH THE NOSE WAS UNEXPECTEDLY STRONG.

ALL THE X-LAWS WERE WIPED OUT.

... TSUKI-GUMI.

BE CAREFUL ...

TO BE CONTINUED!

Shaman King

A SPECIAL ONE-SHOT STORY

EXOTICA

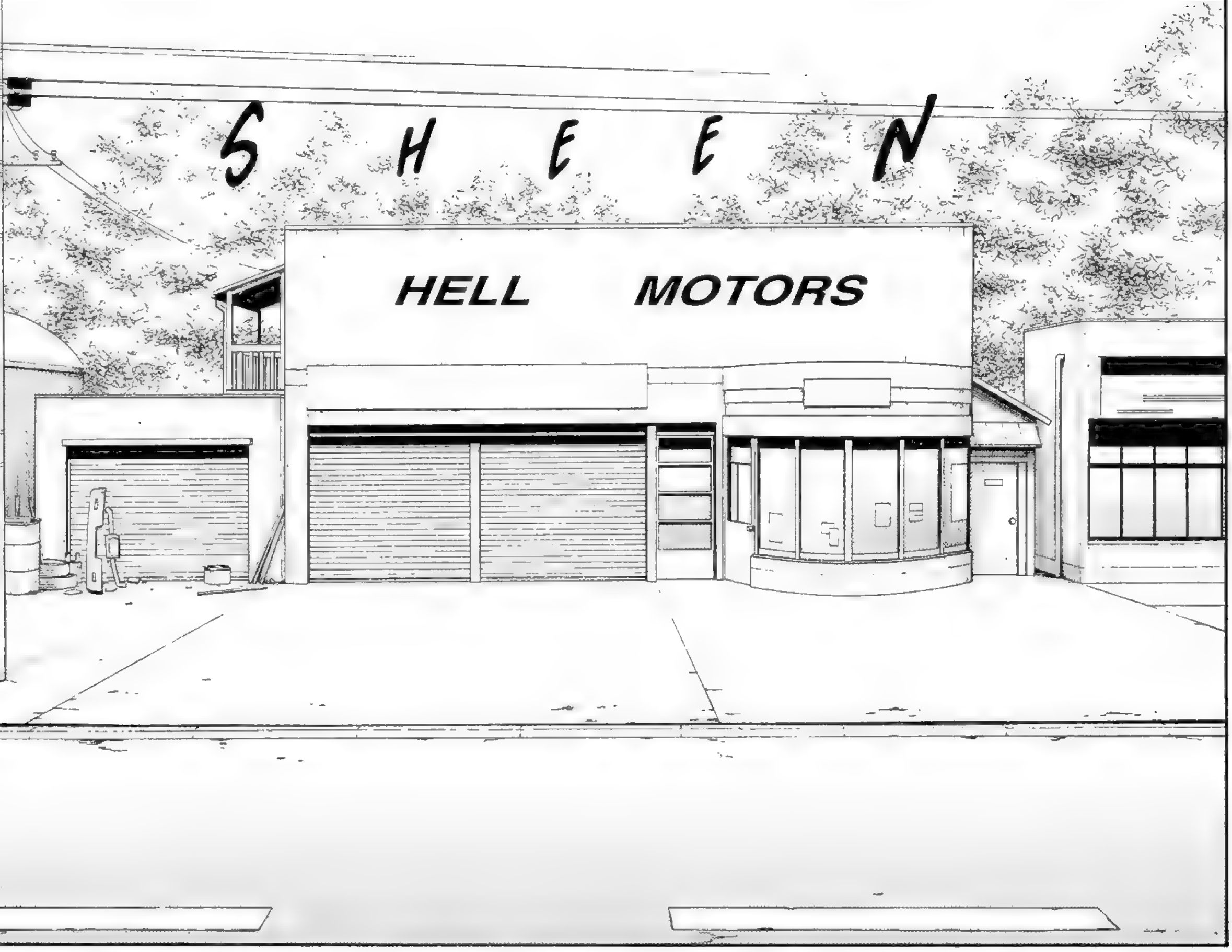
TWEET

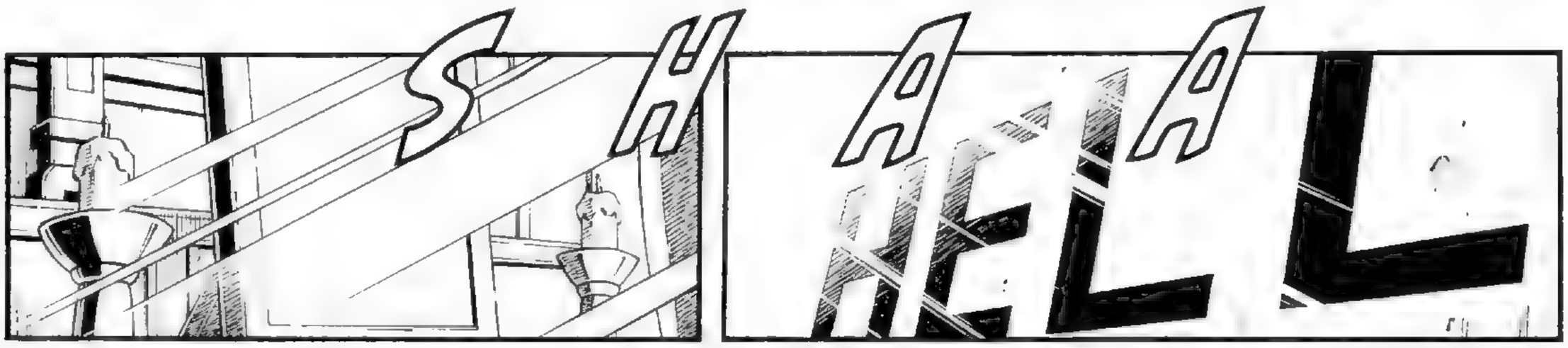
TWEET
TWEET

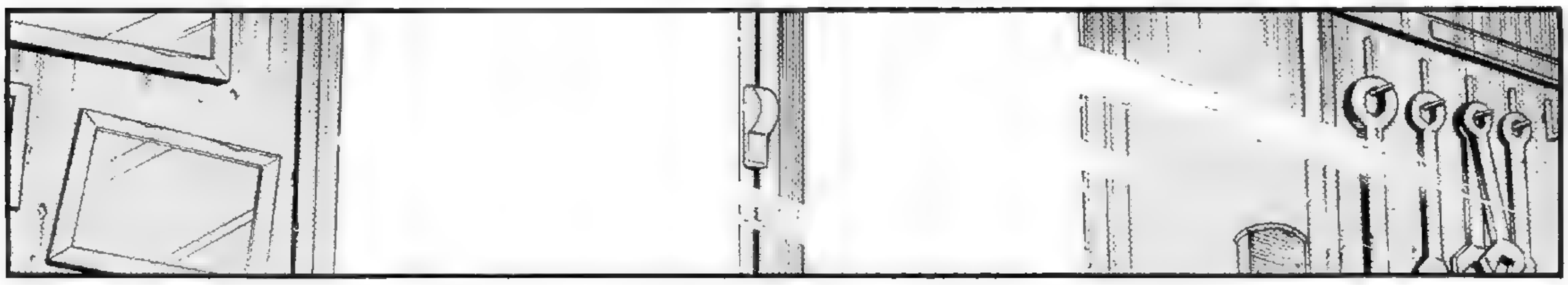
TWEET
TWEET
TWEET

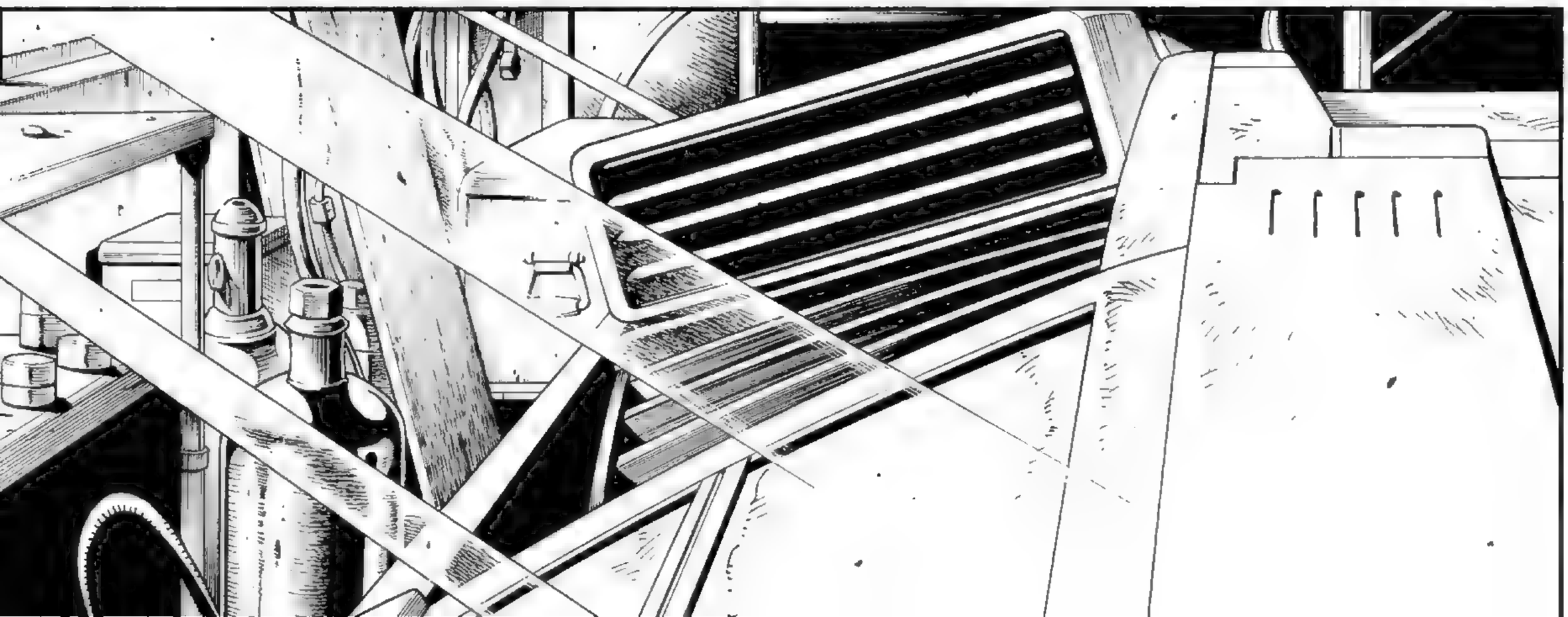
WARNING

WARNING

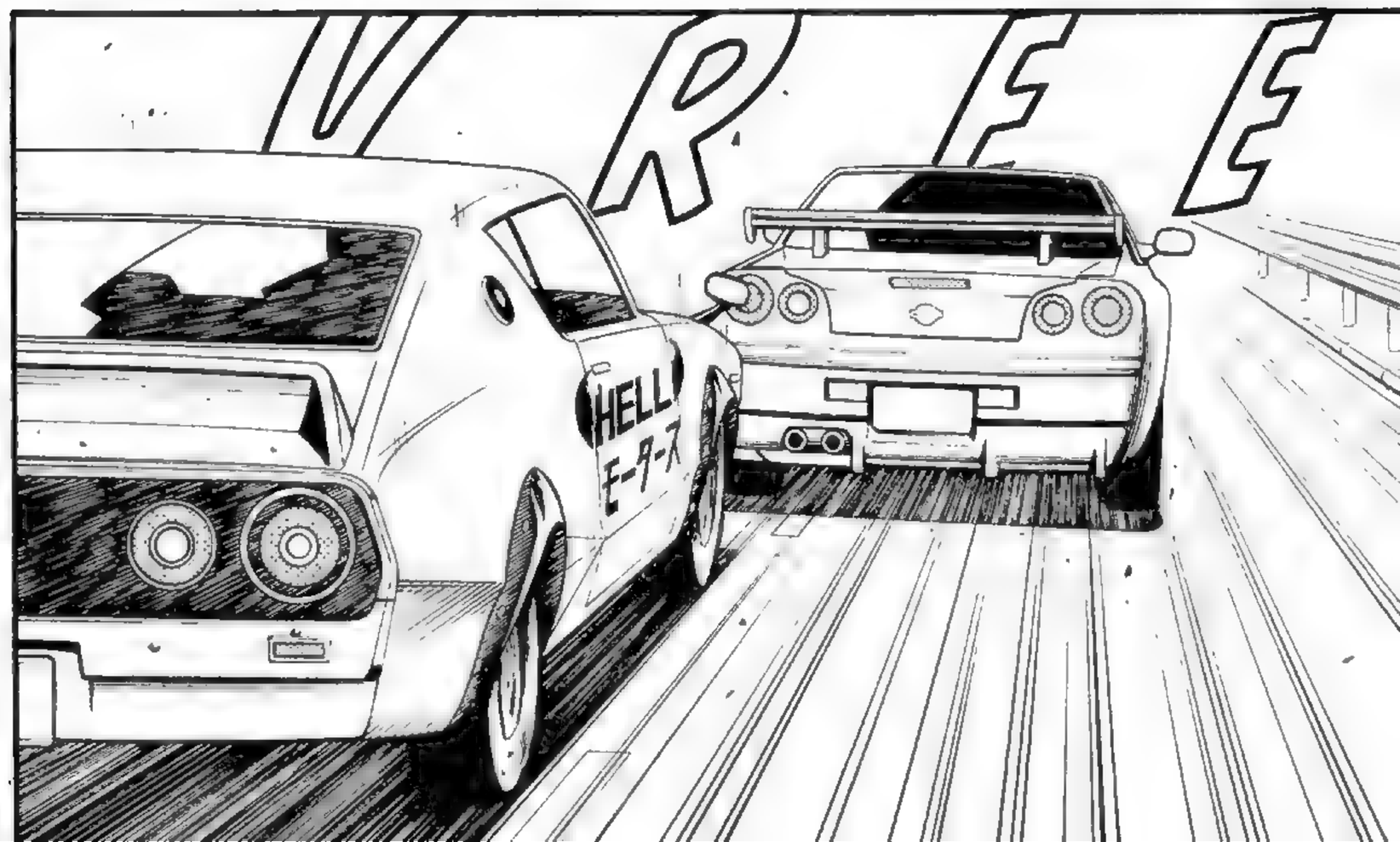

SHEEN
HELL MOTORS


SH
AHELL





SHOOM



VROOO

RRHH

HOW CAN THAT OLD JUNKER DO IT?!

RATS...

HUFF ...

HUFF ...

HUFF ...

HUFF ...

HUFF ...

IT'S ALREADY BEATEN ALL MY FRIENDS.

NOW MY GT-R'S ABOUT TO OVERHEAT TOO!!

HUFF ...

HUFF ...

THE SUN'S COMING UP AND IT'S STILL HANGING ON!

HUFF ...

WOO

THE LEADER OF TAPESTRY, THE FASTEST TEAM ON THE EXPRESSWAY !!

I'M KENGO HAMAMATSU !

KRK

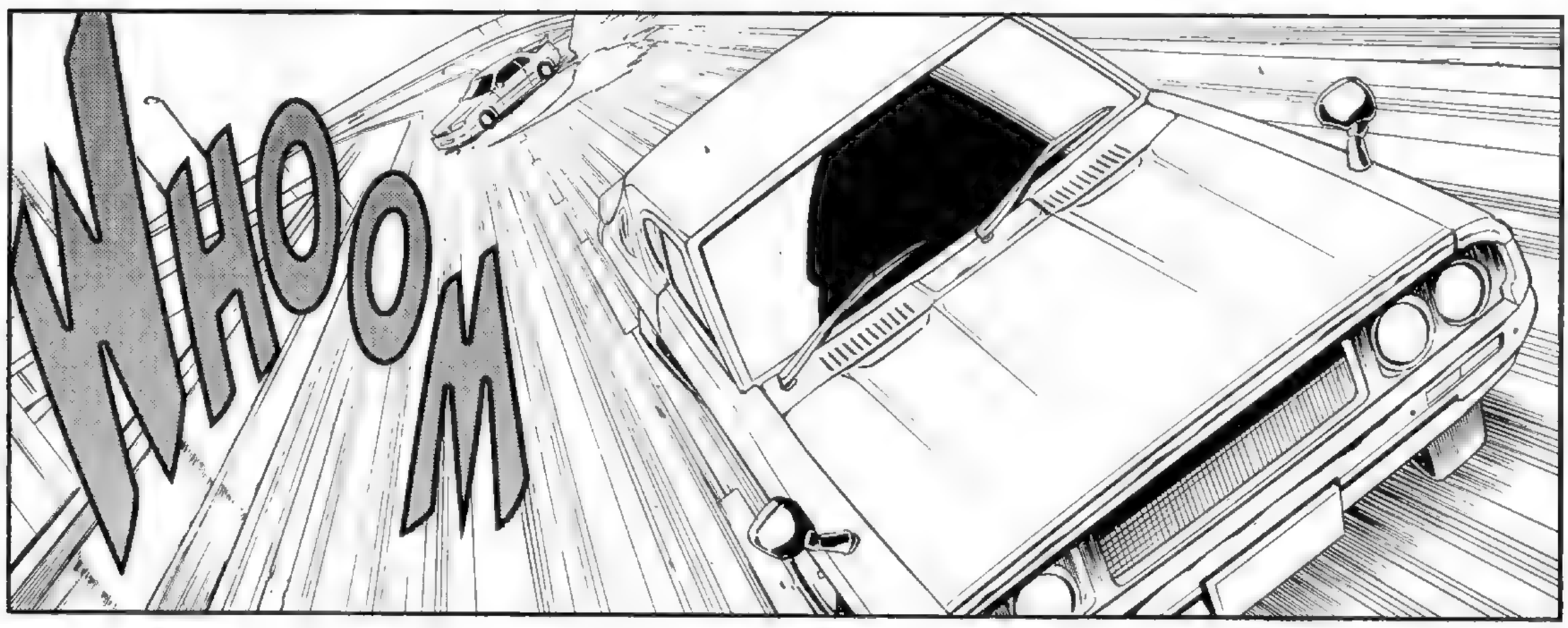
BUT I'M NOT LICKED YET!

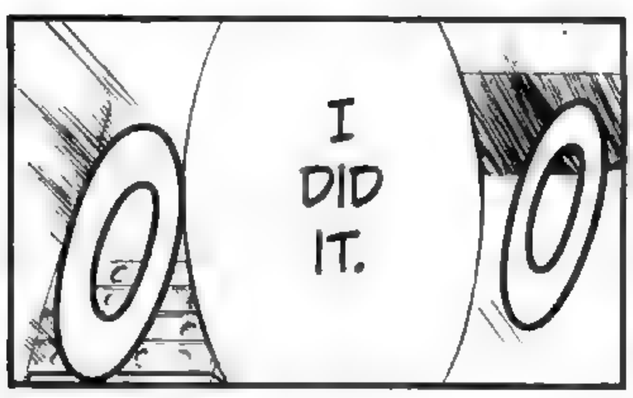
HOOM
HELL MOTORS
!
THE FASTEST ONE NOW IS...
...AKI KASHIMAKI.
SORRY.
SHUFU

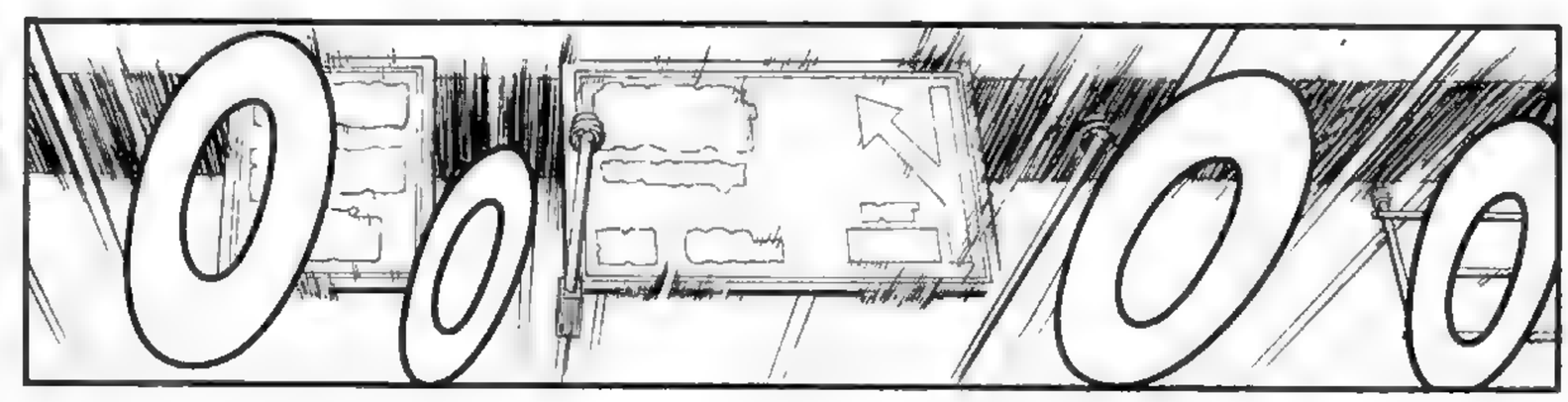
AND DON'T YOU...

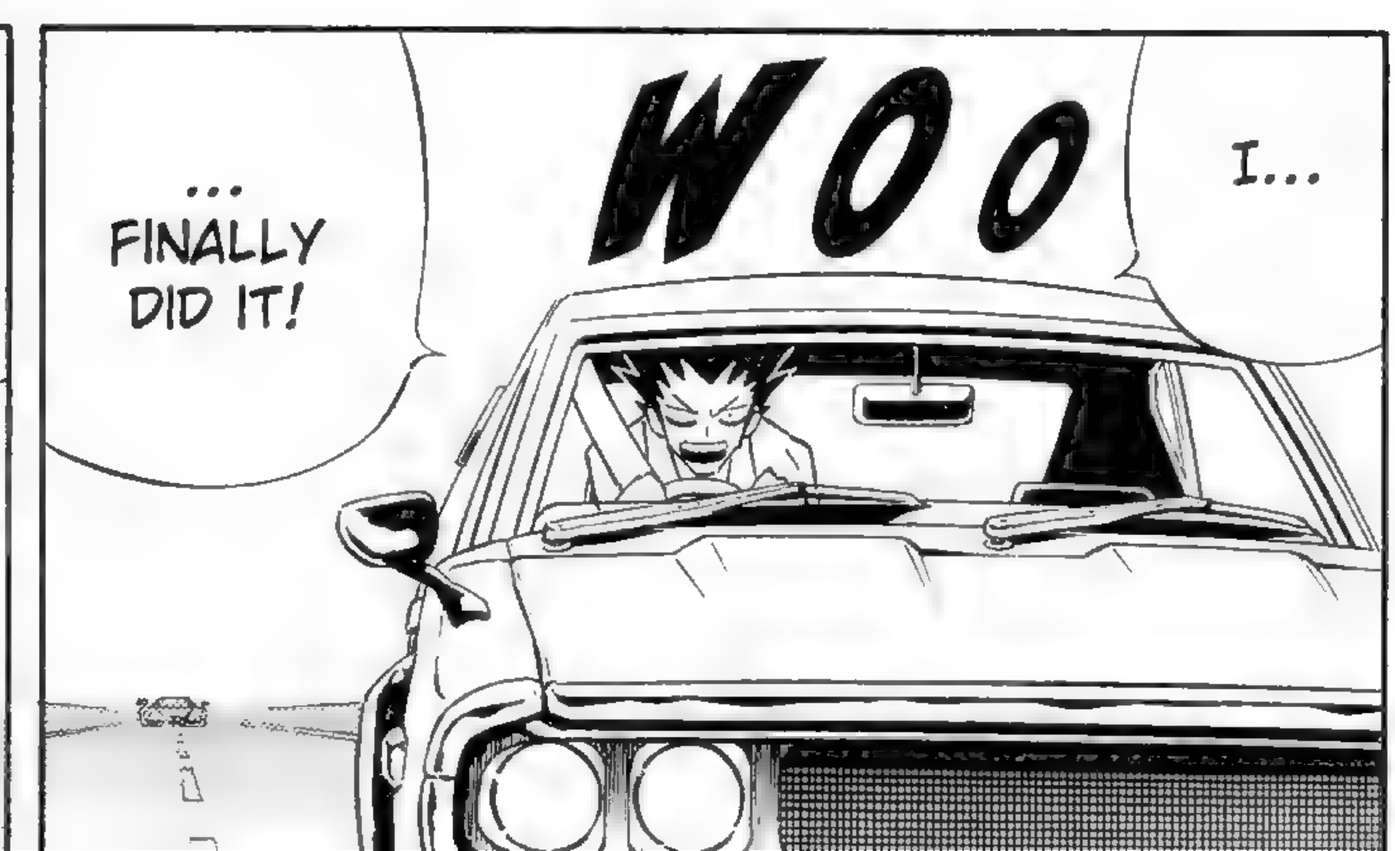
... FORGET IT.

HE'S INCREDIBLE !!

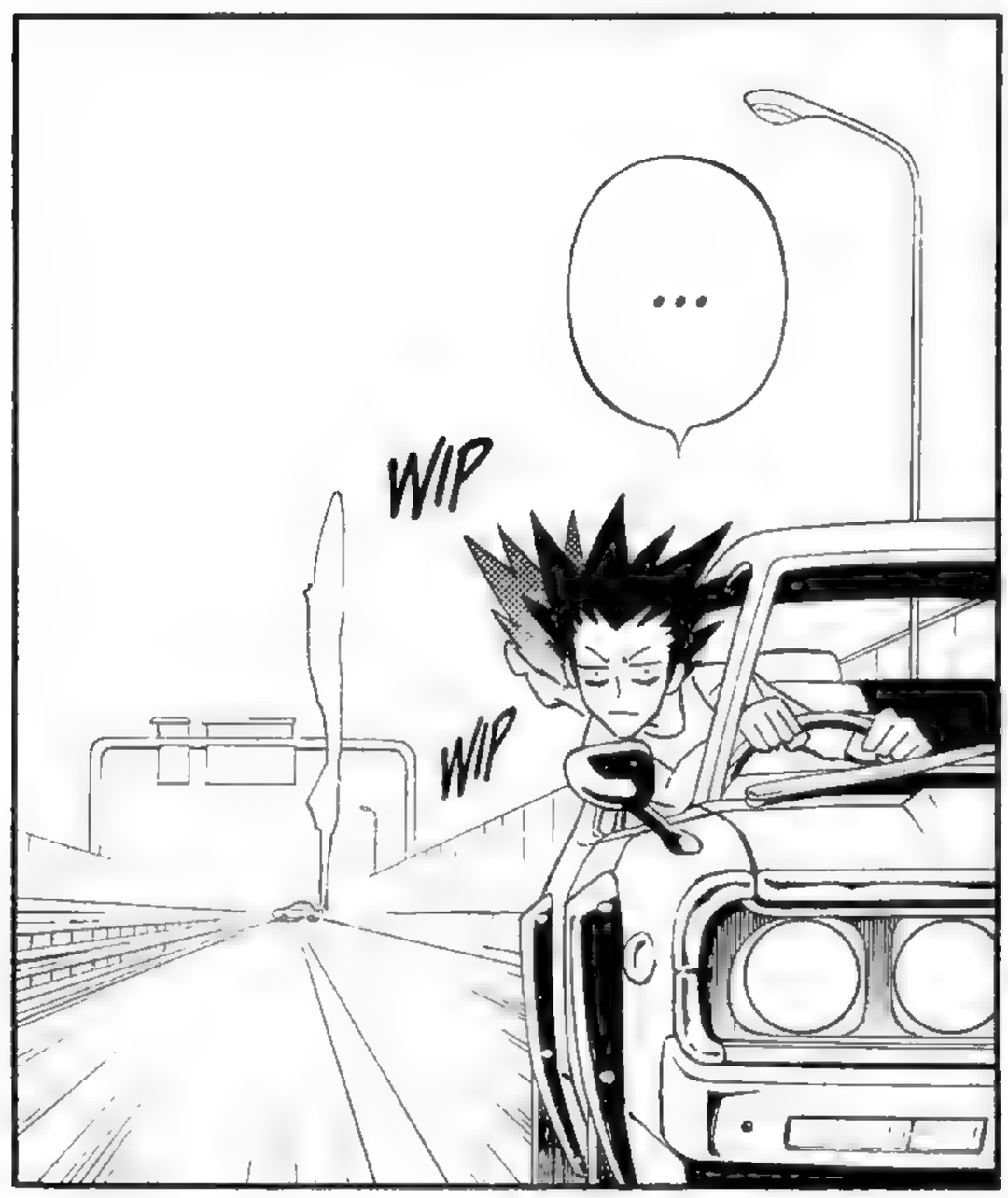








I'M NUMBER ONE!!

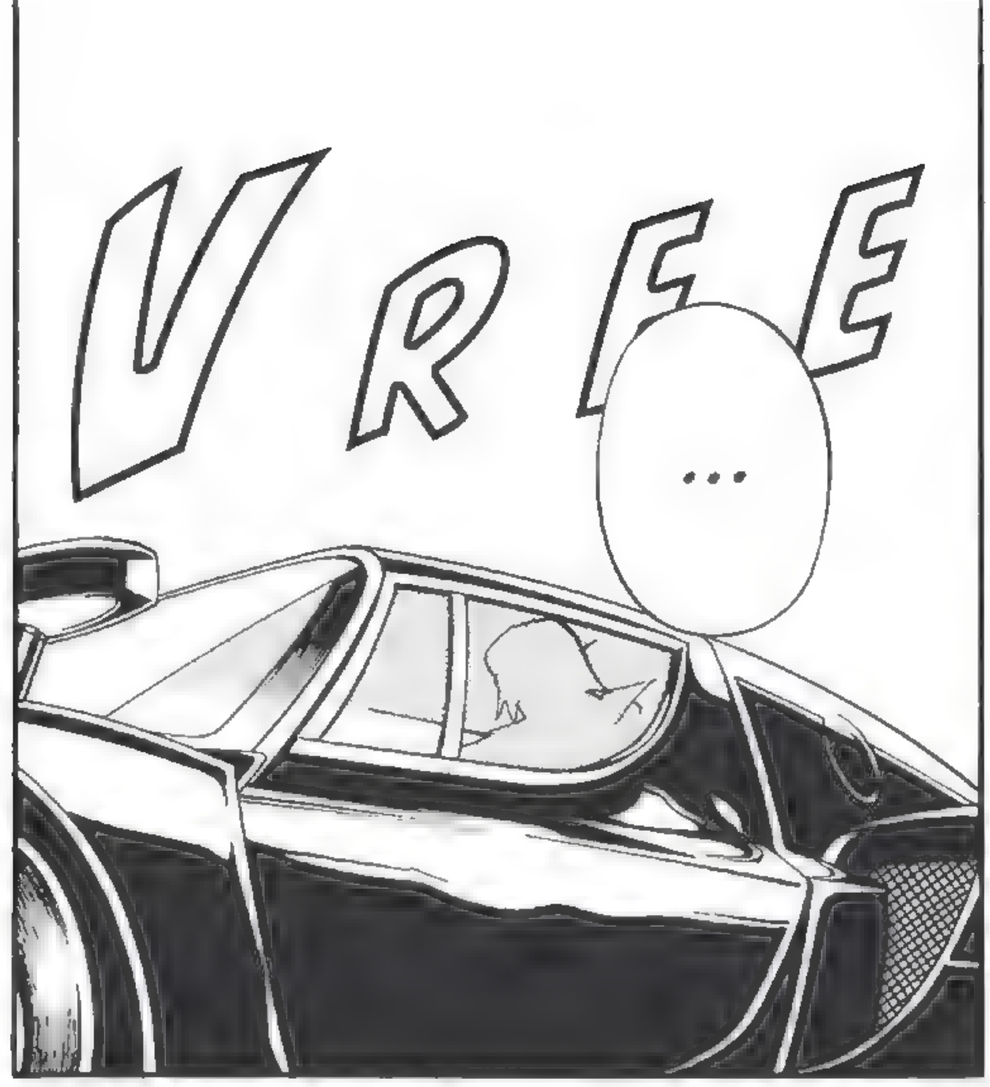


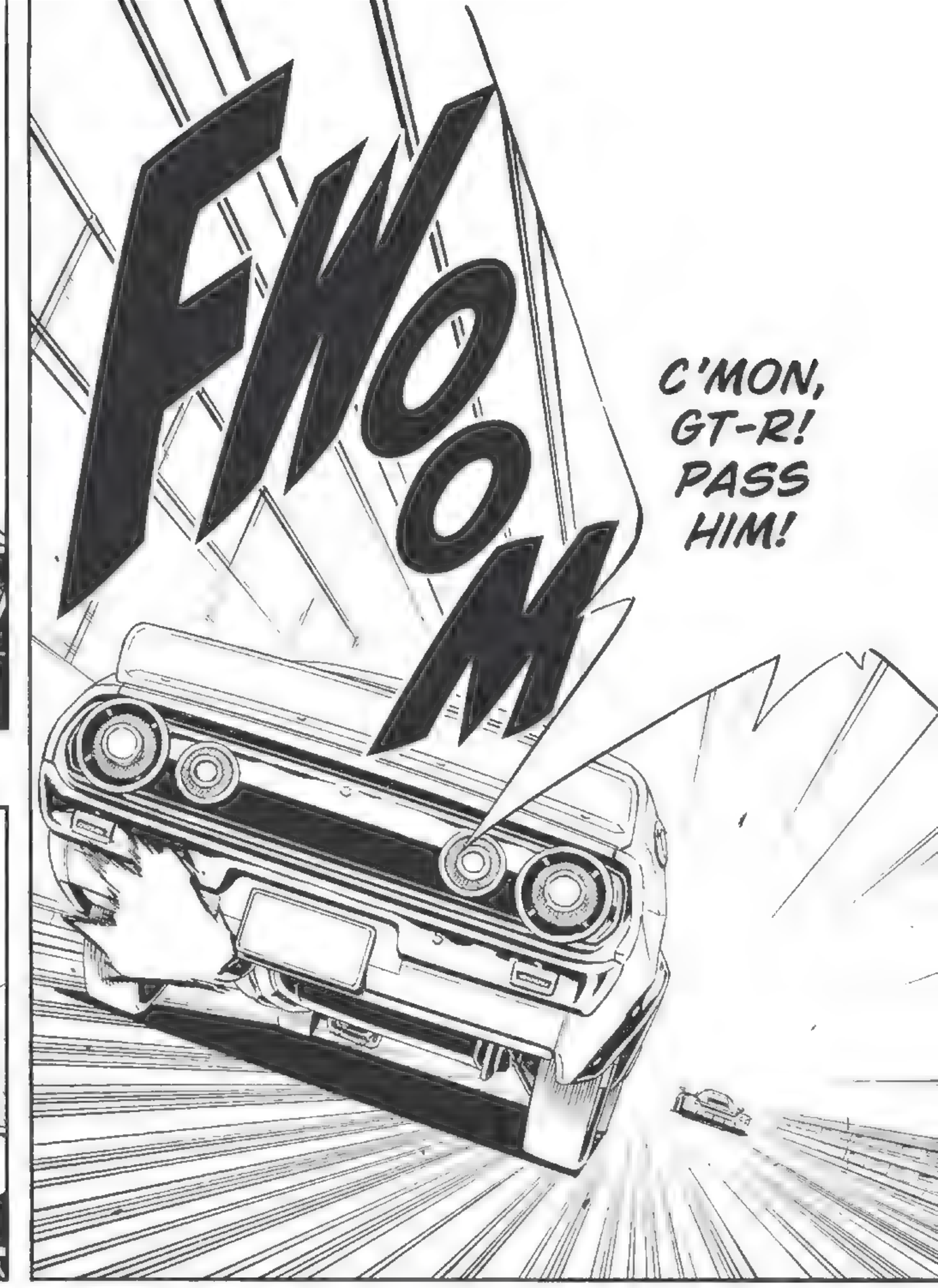
SLIDE

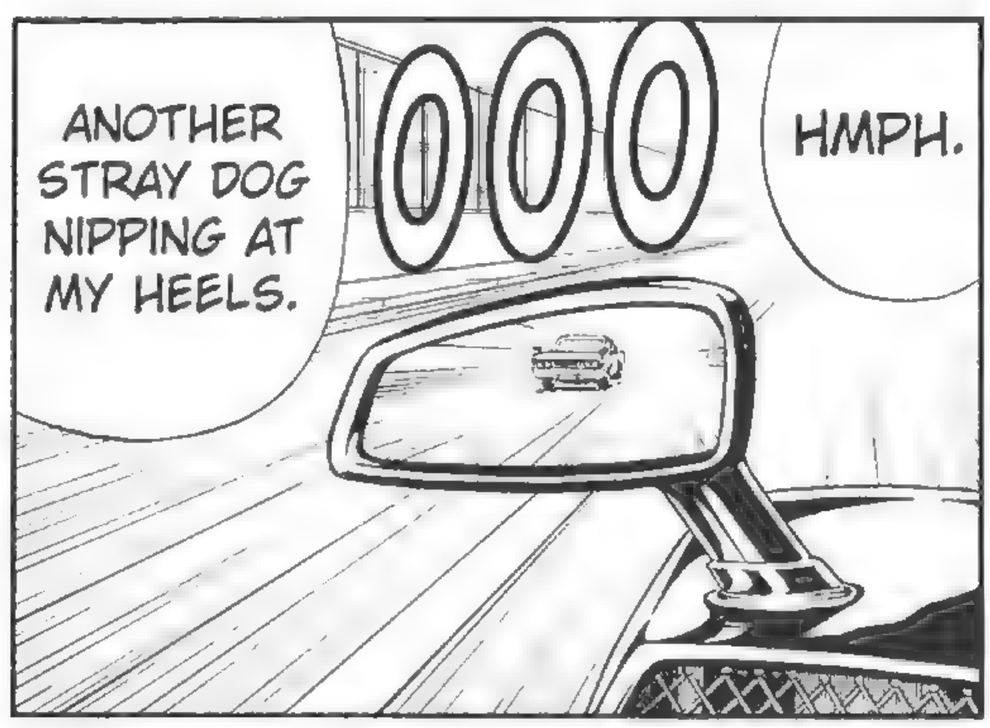
I'M NOT AFRAID OF NOBODY!
SHUK

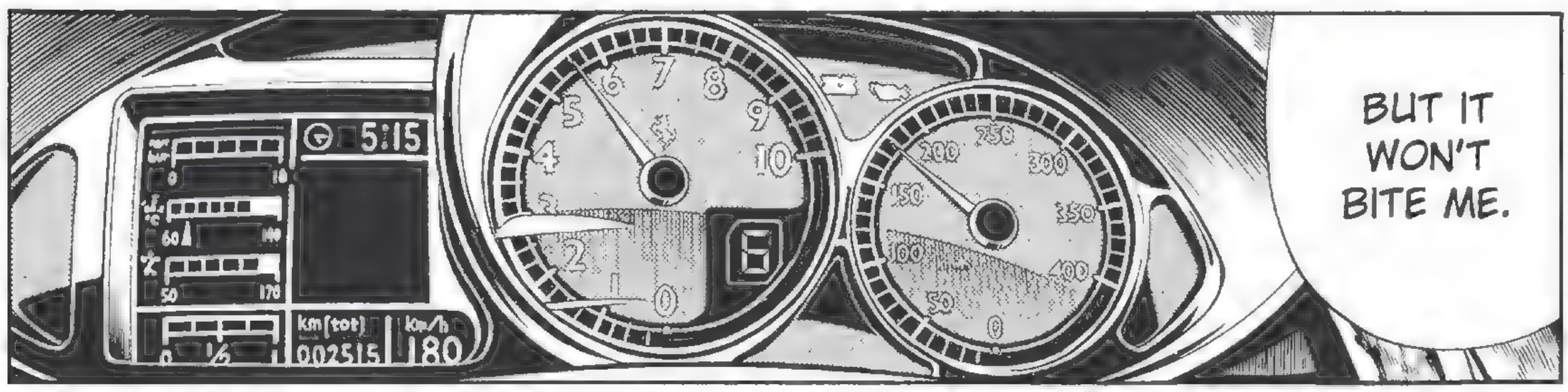
I GOT A CHALLENGER ALREADY?
NO PROBLEM.

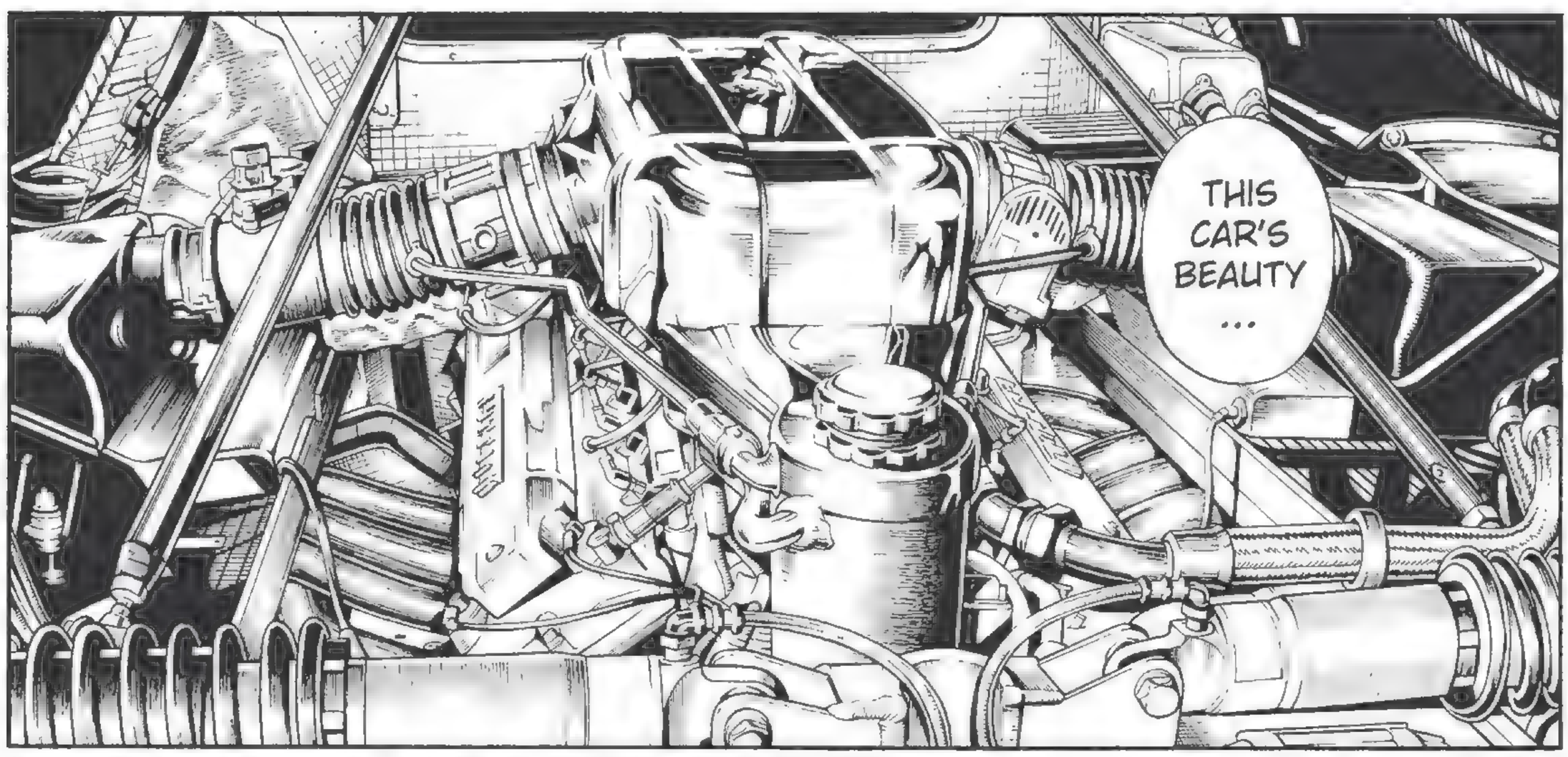
WHO THE HECK IS THAT?
WOOO





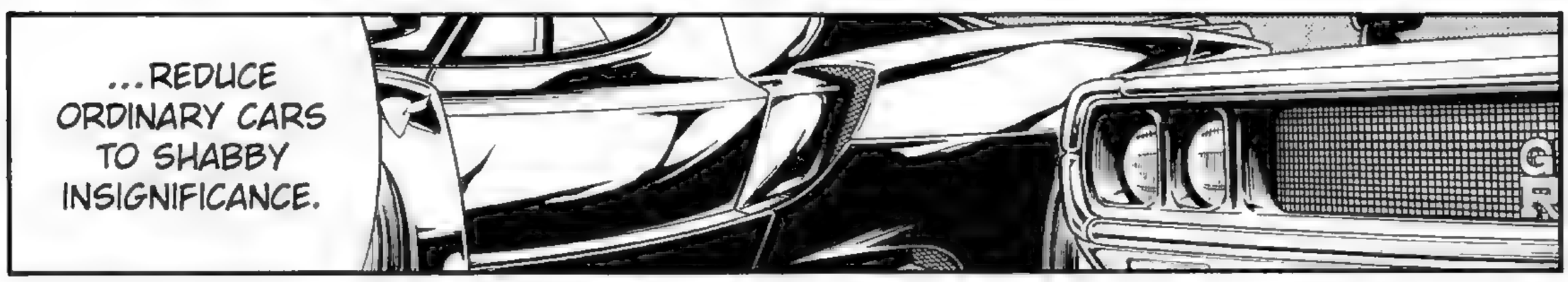






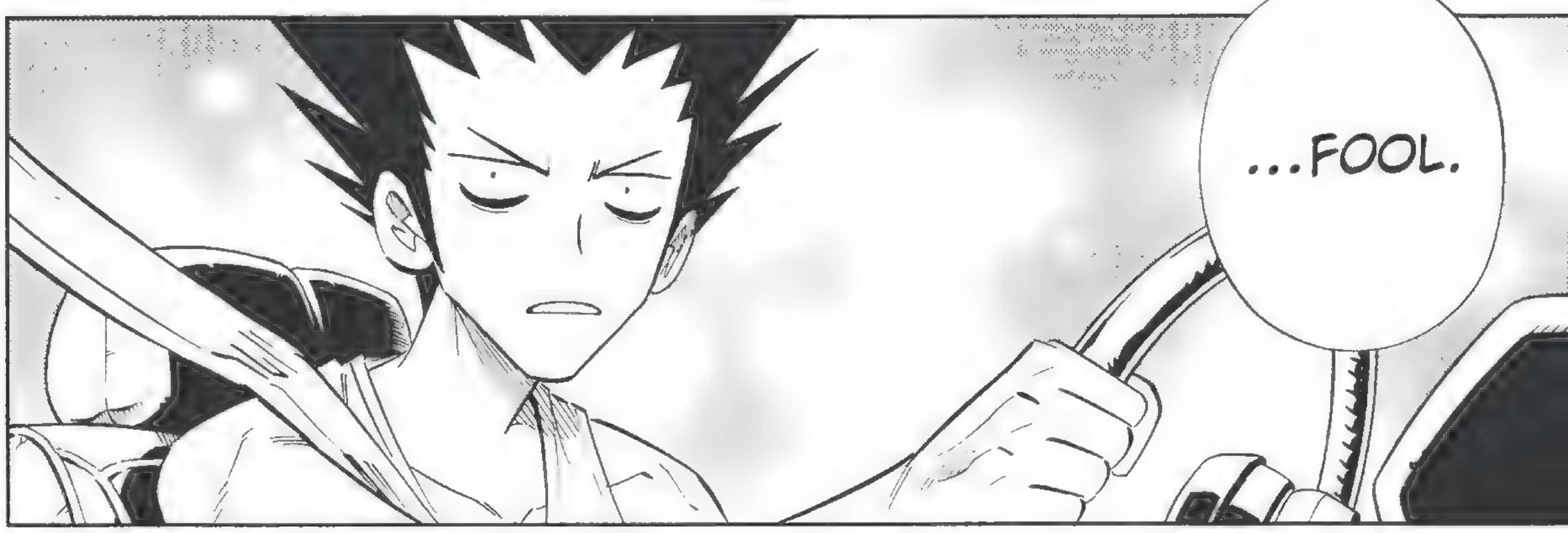
THANKS TO FERRARI MUSEUM, AUTO GARAGE MOTOYAMA

...AND PERFORMANCE ...



THIS IS THE EXOTIC SUPERCAR OF THE GODS.

LET THAT BE A LESSON TO YOU ...



SO?

WHAT ?!

...AND YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO COME BACK WITH ONLY A COUPLE SCRATCHES?

HM

PH

YOU RACED SOME GUY AND WRECKED THE COMPANY CAR...

C'MON, BOSS, HE'S YOUR SON! AREN'T YOU GLAD HE WASN'T HURT?

YOU GOT A LOT OF NERVE, AKI.
THUMP

WHAM
SHUT UP, BOB!
OOF!

...JUST TO FEED YOUR EGO.
FSSSS
KRAK
AKI, I DON'T LET YOU USE THAT CAR...
...
HELL

HELL MOTORS

DOOM

EVERY TIME YOU WIN A RACE IN THAT RATTLETRAP, IT HELPS THE SHOP'S REPUTATION!

WHAT?

SNAP

...

THERE THEY GO AGAIN.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOTALED IT, FOOL!

WHAM WHAM WHAM WHA

RATTLE-TRAP ?! TAKE THAT BACK, POPS!

...IN A BLACK CAR WITH A WINGED HORSE CREST!

I DON'T KNOW! SOME GUY WITH A SCARF ...

WHO WAS THIS GUY WHO BEAT YOU?! WELL?!

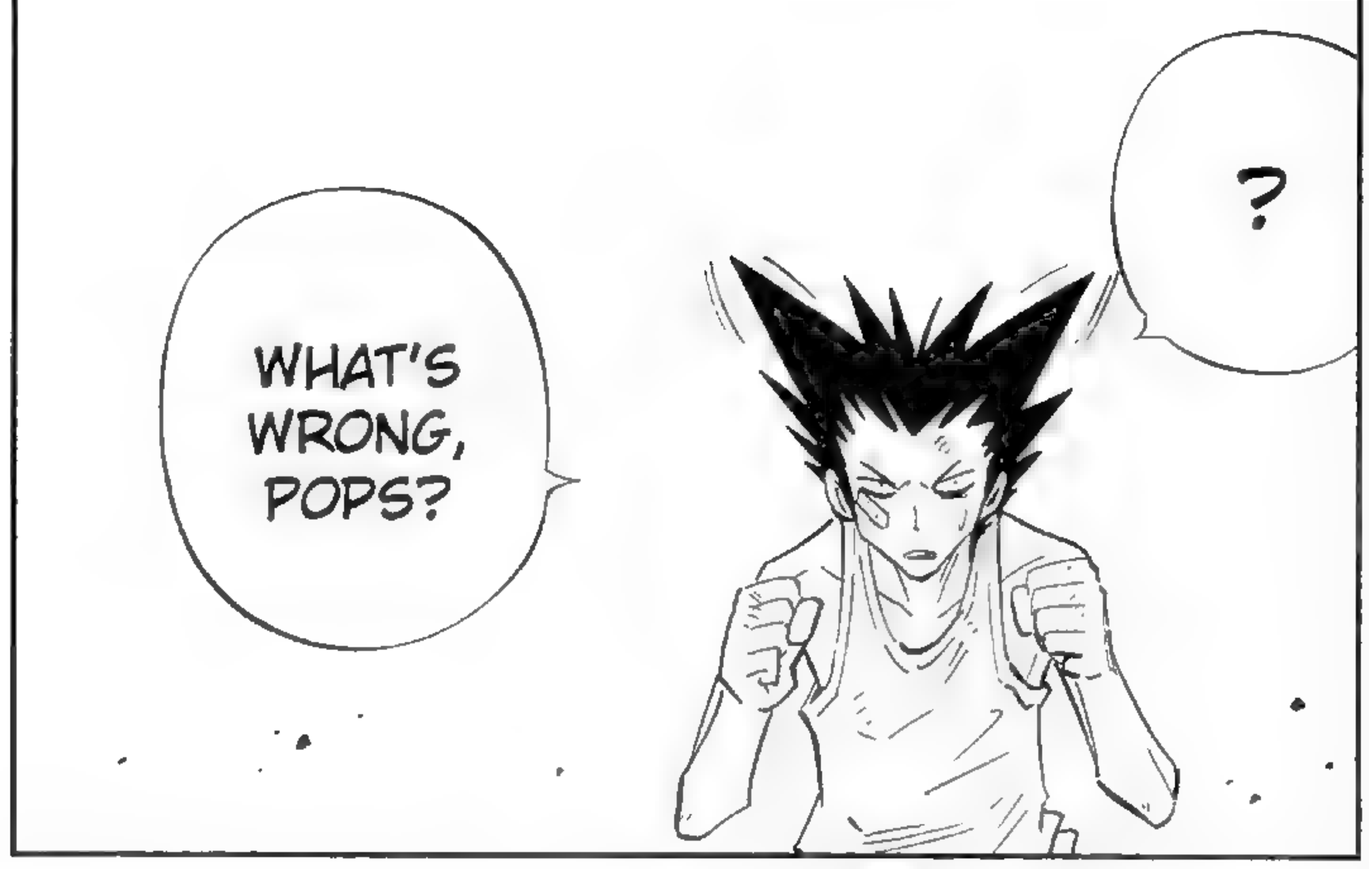
WHAM

WHAT A COUPLE OF HOTHEADS.

EVERY DAY SINCE I CAME TO WORK HERE...

POW

KRAK


WHAT'S WRONG, POPS?
?

NO WAY.
...

BUT HE'S DEAD!!
THE FERRARI BARON ...

NEVER MIND. FORGET IT.
SHAKE
WHO'S THAT, BOSS?

THE FERRARI BARON!

...

IT'S NOT WORTH REPAIRING.

AND, AKI...

YEAH?

I'M NOT FEELING SO HOT. LET'S CLOSE UP FOR THE DAY.

BOB, HAUL THE GT-R TO THE JUNKYARD.

WHAT ?!

SO LEARN HOW TO RECOGNIZE AN EXOTIC CAR WHEN YOU SEE ONE.

YOU'RE MY SON ...

WHO'S THE FERRARI BARON?

POPS ...

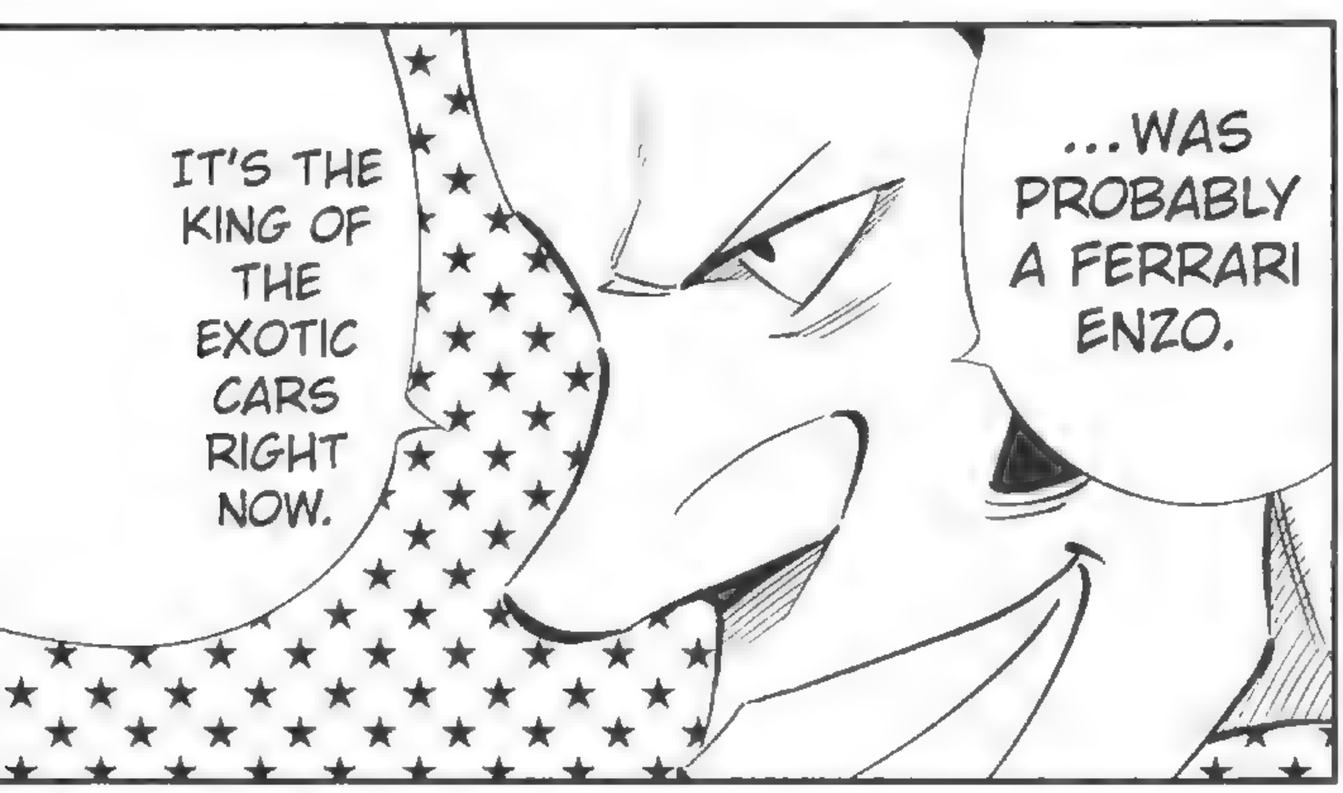
SLAM

...IS AN EXOTIC CAR?

WHAT ...

I'M SORRY. YOU PUT A LOT OF WORK INTO IT.

...



...A SLEEK BODY, PRECISE HANDLING...

IT HAS INCREDIBLE POWER GENERATED BY A V12 ENGINE...

...THE ABILITY TO STOP ON A DIME...

THAT'S WHAT MAKES AN EXOTIC CAR.

...AND AN OUTRAGEOUS DESIGN THAT EMBODIES IT ALL.

BA-BUMP

...

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHAKE

IT'S FERRARI'S MASTERPIECE.

AND THE ENZO IS A CUT ABOVE ALL THE REST. THAT'S WHY IT COSTS $800,000.

THERE ARE ONLY 399 OF THEM IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

HOW DO WE BEAT IT?

SO...

THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME WAY!

WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

...I'LL REALLY BE THE FASTEST.

IF I CAN BEAT THAT...

THERE'S JUST NO WAY.

...

...

BUT ...

STOP SAYING THAT!

YOU'RE A MECHANIC! IT'S YOUR JOB TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

THAT EXOTIC CAR HAS YOUR BLOOD BOILING IN YOUR VEINS.

AKI...

...AKI'S MY SON.

MY LOVE ...

DOOM

...BECAUSE THE BLOOD IS BOILING IN MY VEINS TOO.

HAVE A NICE DAY!

HELL MOTORS

REE REE

RMM RMM RMM

CHUNK

YOU...

I WANT TO SPEAK WITH YOUR BOSS.

TAKE IT EASY, BOB.

WHERE'S MY CAMERA ?!

IT'S AN ENZO!

KLAK

IT'S ...

IT'S ...

HEY...

HMPH.

HUH ?

KLAK KLAK KLAK

YOU!

SO YOU'RE THE FERRARI BARON.

YOU'VE GROWN UP, JUNIOR.

IT'S THE NAME OF MY FATHER– THE MAN YOU KILLED, DEVIL BULL.

DON'T CALL ME THAT.

MY NAME IS MIKA HIMEJO.

JUNIOR?

YOU AND MY FATHER, THE FIRST FERRARI BARON, WERE RIVALS.

THEN THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT, AND YOU DISAPPEARED FROM THE CIRCUIT.

TWENTY YEARS AGO...

DEVIL BULL?! YOU KILLED SOME-BODY ?!

ALL THESE WEIRD NICKNAMES ...

HE DROVE THE FAST, LIGHT, DANGEROUS FERRARI F40.

HE DIED TEN YEARS AGO.

WITHOUT A RIVAL TO CHALLENGE HIM, MY FATHER LOST HIS ZEST FOR LIFE.

...A MONTH AGO ON THE EXPRESSWAY.

AND I FINALLY FOUND YOU...

AFTER THAT, I SWORE I'D FIND YOU AND AVENGE MY FATHER!

WHUP

HOW'S THAT MY DAD'S FAULT?!

STOP IGNORING ME!

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD'VE MADE THAT 30-YEAR-OLD JALOPY GO LIKE THAT.

I KNEW YOU WERE A FAMOUS MECHANIC.

WHAT ARE YOU CALLING A JALOPY?!

HEY!

ALL RIGHT. WE'LL HAVE A RACE.

...I'M ABOUT TO BREAK A PROMISE TO MY WIFE.

MIKA, THANKS TO YOU...

WHAM

...

YOU'VE SEEN HIM DRIVE, SO YOU DON'T COMPLAIN.

YOU TWO ARE THE NEXT GENERATION FERRARI BARON AND DEVIL BULL.

SAME PLACE—THE EXPRESSWAY AT ROUTE C1.

HUH?

WHAT?

BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO RACE HIM.

YOU WANT TO BE THE FASTEST, DON'T YOU?

!

TMP

BUT WHAT'S AKI GONNA DRIVE?!

WHY DO I HAVE TO RACE THIS PSYCHOPATH?

SNUFF

KLANK

ALL RIGHT, MIKA...

IF YOU'RE DONE HERE, YOU'D BETTER GO.

THAT LOGO!
!

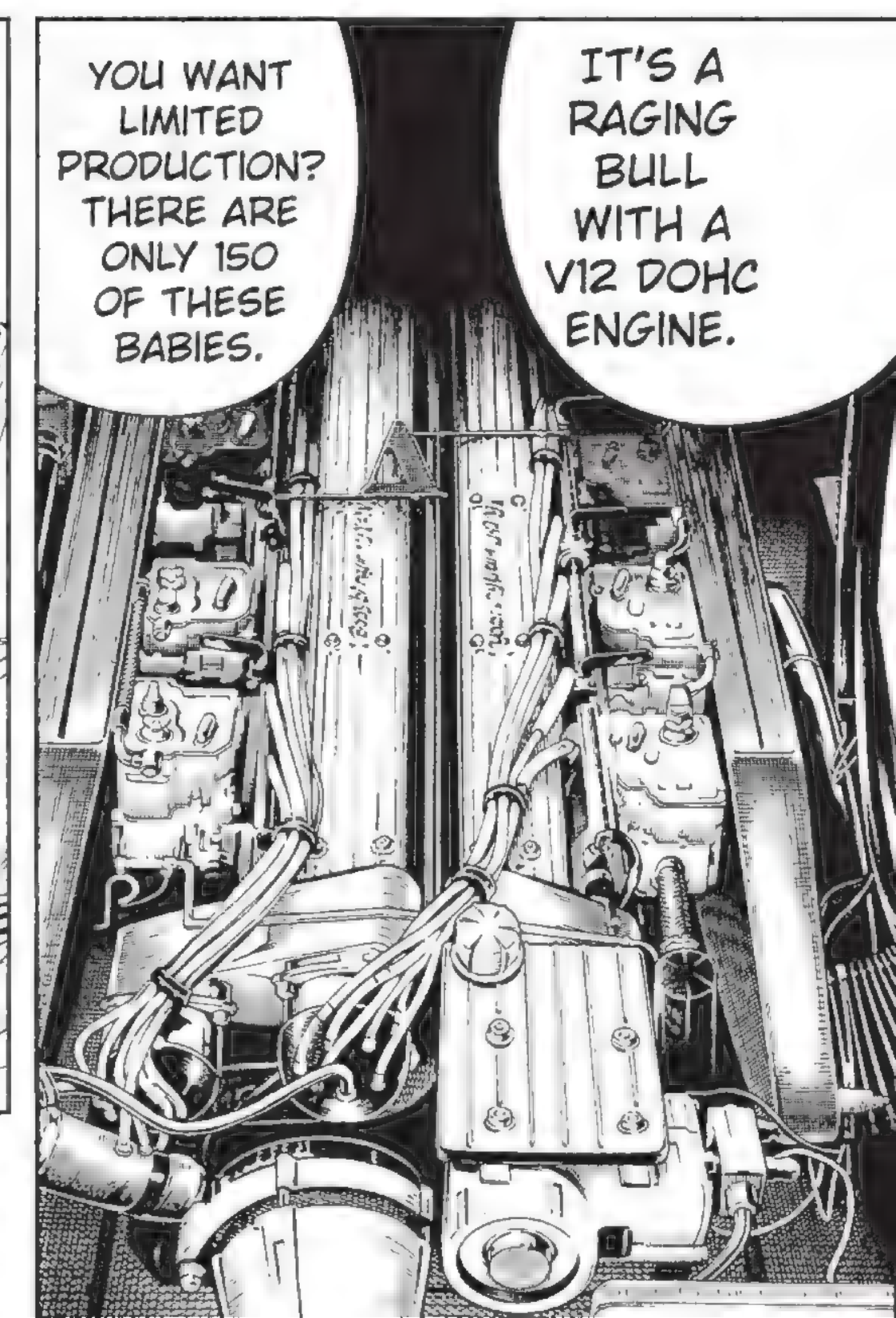
SO THAT'S WHAT WAS UNDER ALL THAT DUST!
THE FORBIDDEN GARAGE !!

IT'S JUST LIKE POPS'S TATTOO!
HEY!

LISTEN, MY YOUNG IDIOT.
TO BEAT AN EXOTIC CAR, YOU NEED AN EXOTIC CAR.

SORRY, BUT...
WE DON'T WORK ON FERRARIS.
LAMBORGHIN

YOU CAN USE THIS ONE.



THE LAMBORGHINI COUNTACH LP400

I'LL ENJOY WATCHING YOU SQUIRM WHEN WE REACH 186 MPH.

BUT YOUR COUNTACH HAS A CRUCIAL WEAKNESS.

YROOC

YOU HEAR THE NEWS? TEAM TAPESTRY'S FINISHED!

HA HA HA!

HEH HEH HEH...

SHOOM

THAT MAKES OUR TEAM NUMBER ONE BY DEFAULT!!

KENGO HAMAMATSU'S LOST HIS EDGE!

SOME UNKNOWN KID TOOK 'EM OUT!

SHIN

YEAH! WE'RE GONNA FLY TONIGHT!

WOW !!

MASA ...

WE GOTTA CALL THE GANG.

...

SOMETHING SLEEK AND LOW JUST BLEW PAST US.

VREEE

THERE'S AN ENZO RACING A COUNTACH !!

...YOU'RE IN MY REALM.

BUT NOW ...

THE DEVIL BULL'S MASTERFUL TUNING BROUGHT IT BACK TO LIFE.

HEH... I SEE YOU KNOW HOW TO DRIVE.

VROOO

WOO

I'M GOING TO AVENGE YOU AT LAST.

FATHER ...

TOO ...

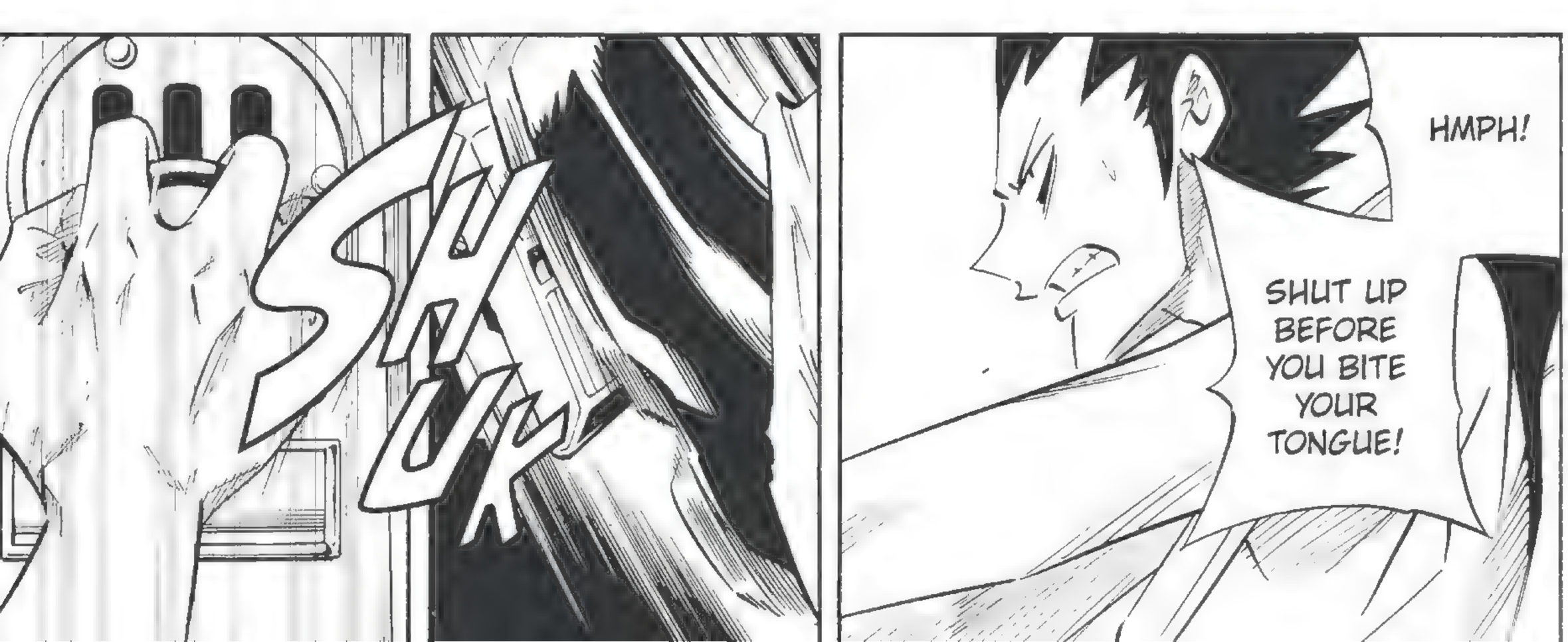
TOO FAST!

WAAAAH !!

...HE W-WANTED ME TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET TOO RECKLESS!

TH-THE BOSS SAID...

SHUT UP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE IF YOU'RE AFRAID OF SPEED?!



WHOA!

!

SERIOUSLY ?!

WUZZ

THIS IS TOO COOL!

DID YOU SEE THAT?!

A FERRARI AND A LAMBORGHINI!

WUZZ

...

WAAAAH!!

COME ON!

SPOON

渋銀浦

銀座 Ginza C1

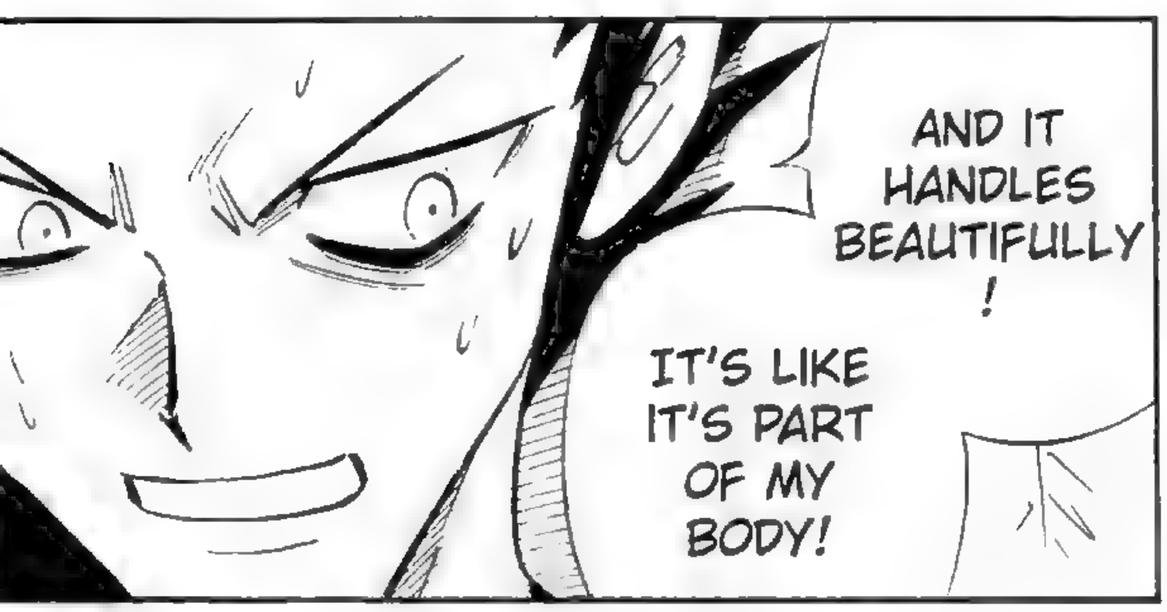
箱崎 Hakozaki Y6 97

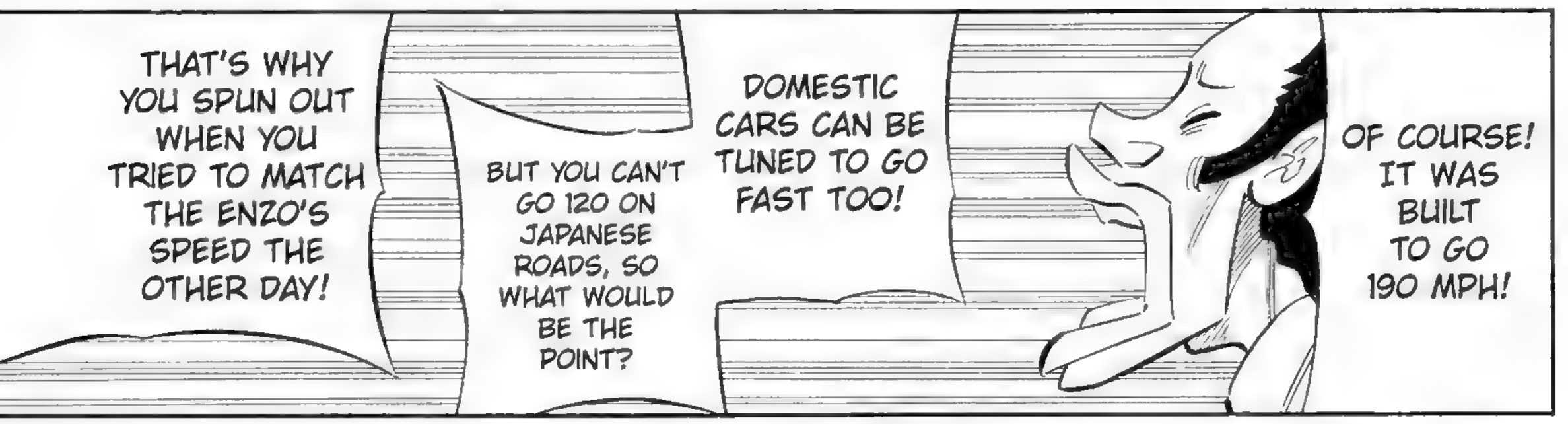
一ツ橋 Hitotsubashi 出口900m EXIT 27

VROOOOO

UP TO 110 IN SECOND...

UP TO 55 MPH IN FIRST GEAR...





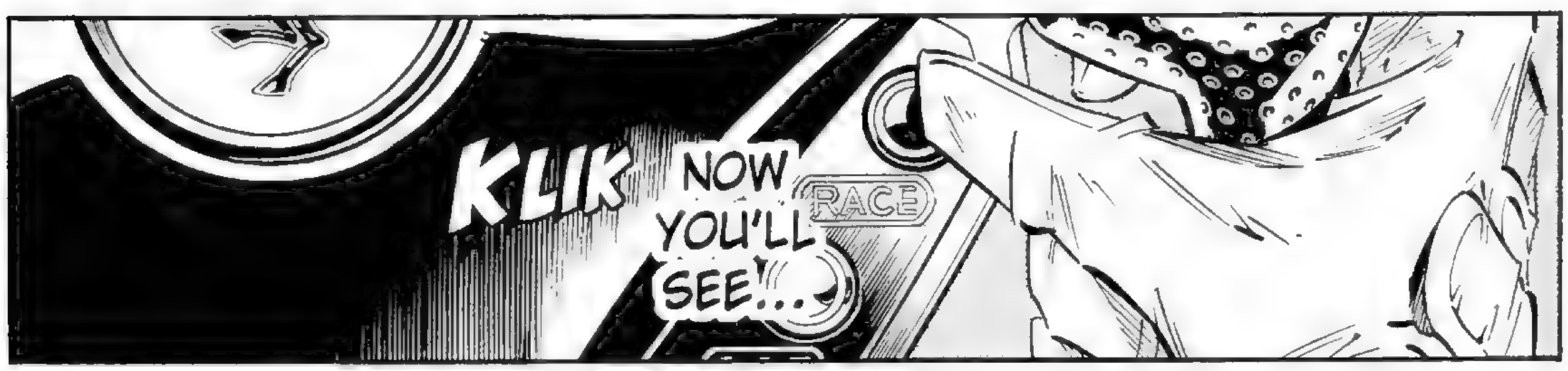
WAAH!

VROO

THEN I'LL JUST KEEP ON ACCELERATING!

SKREECH

THE STEERING WHEEL'S GETTING REALLY HEAVY!!



WOOO

HEY!

HE WON'T LEAVE ME IN THE DUST! C'MON, COUNTACH!!

FWOOM

DARN IT!

THOOM

!

THE COUNTACH JUST HIT A WALL OF AIR!

KLAKKA

A WALL !!

KLAKKA

WALL?!

IT'S SHAKING !

HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENING ?!

KLAKKA KLAKKA

AT THIS SPEED, EVEN MINOR AIR RESISTANCE IS A HUGE PROBLEM!

VROOOO

150 MPH !!

THAT'S THE ONE WEAKNESS IN THE ENZO'S AERODYNAMICS !

I DON'T KNOW! YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE SHAPE OF THE CAR WHILE IT'S IN MOTION!

SO WHAT SHOULD I DO, MECHANIC ?!

I SEE.

HEH

WHA ...?!

THERE'S ONE WAY YOU CAN REDUCE WIND RESISTANCE.

YES, YOU CAN.

SMIRK

HOOO

WMM

KLIK

NO, NO, NO !!

KLIK

YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT ...

AKI, IT'S DARK OUT!

VROOOOOOOOOOOO !!

HE CAN'T DRIVE IN THE DARK WITH JUST HIS RUNNING LIGHTS!
HE TURNED OFF HIS HEADLIGHTS !

WHAT ?!

WAIT!

THAT'S RIGHT.

I RACE HERE EVERY NIGHT TO BOOST POPS'S BUSINESS.

!

BOOM

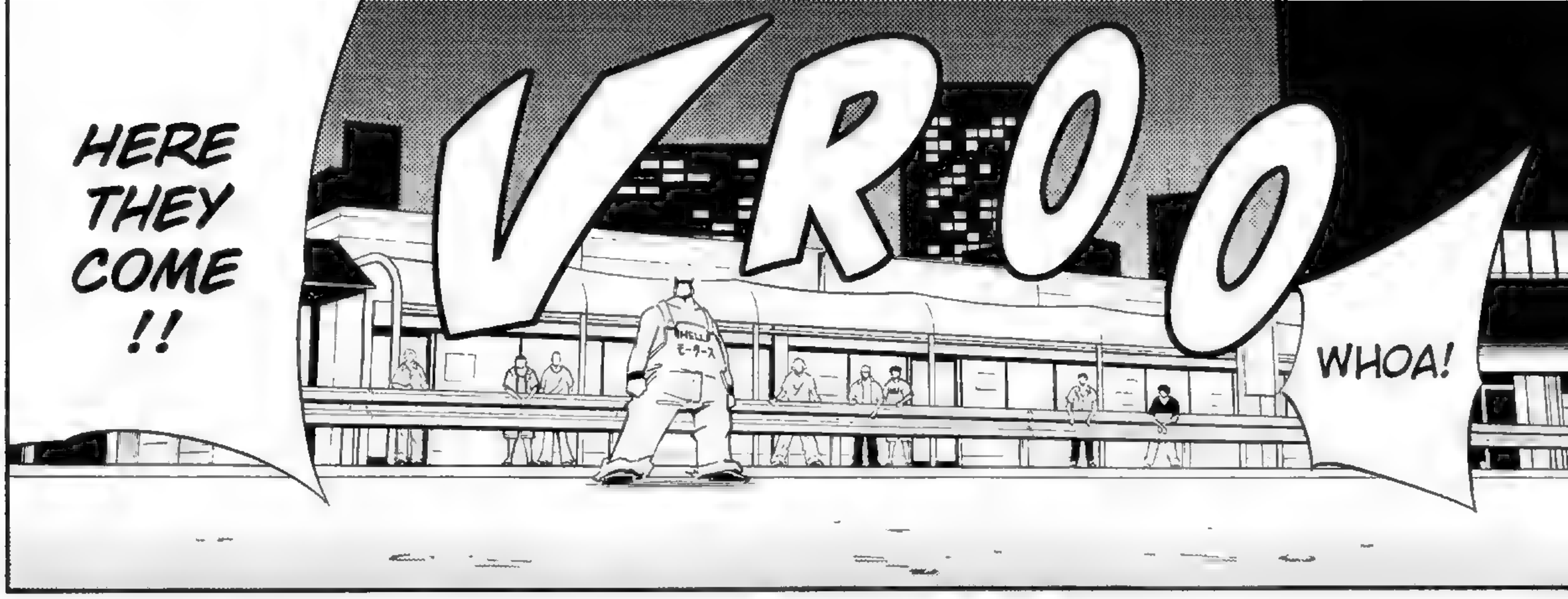
I KNOW EVERY CURVE OF THIS ROAD.

IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S INHERITED HIS FATHER'S HORNS.

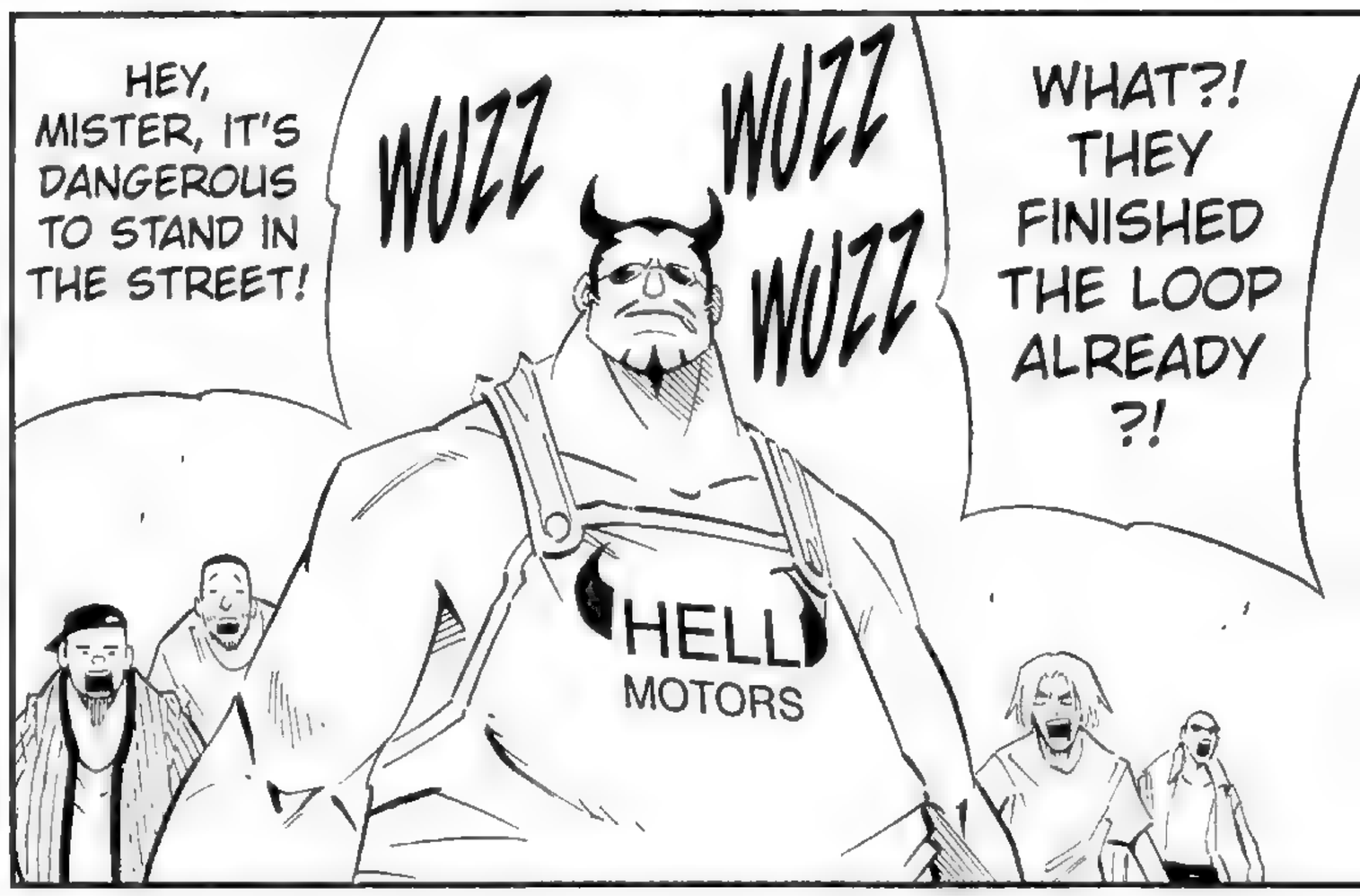
THOSE DARK CIRCLES UNDER HIS EYES SHOW THAT HE'S CONQUERED THE NIGHT.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

HE REALLY IS THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS !!


HERE THEY COME !!
VROOO
WHOA!

AKI...
LOOK OUT!


HEY, MISTER, IT'S DANGEROUS TO STAND IN THE STREET!
WUZZ
WUZZ
WUZZ
WHAT?! THEY FINISHED THE LOOP ALREADY ?!
HELL MOTORS

YOUR MOTHER WAS MY NURSE. SHE MADE ME PROMISE NEVER TO RACE IT AGAIN. BUT YOU CAN.
AFTER MY ACCIDENT, 20 YEARS AGO, I GAINED A LOT OF WEIGHT WHILE I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL. I COULDN'T FIT INTO THE BULL'S LOW, NARROW SEAT ANYMORE.
YOU CAN DO IT.

AKI, YOU'RE MY SON.
YOU HAVE A REAL LOVE FOR CARS.
YOU'VE INHERITED MY FIGHTING SPIRIT.
BUT ABOVE ALL, YOU WANT TO WIN.
280
320
120

EXOTIC CARS...

MY NAME IS AKI KASHIMAKI.

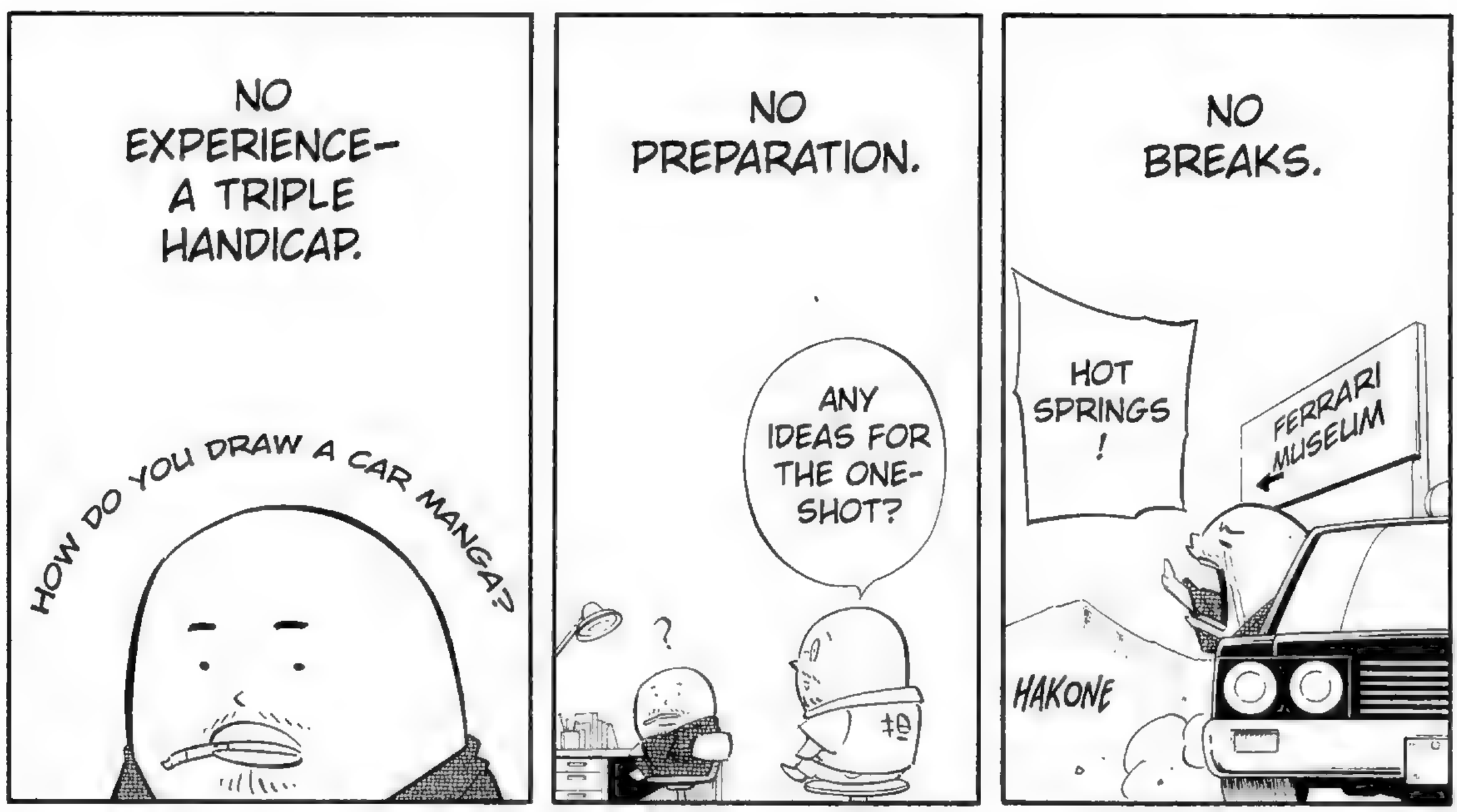
...ARE GREAT.

DON'T FORGET IT.

THE EL MOTORS

EXOTICA: END

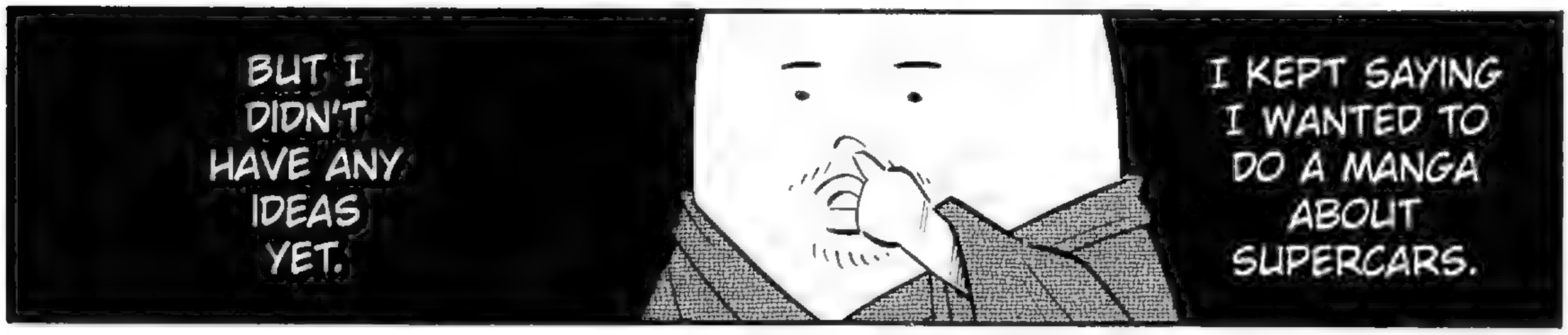
THREE WEEKS IN PRODUCTION.

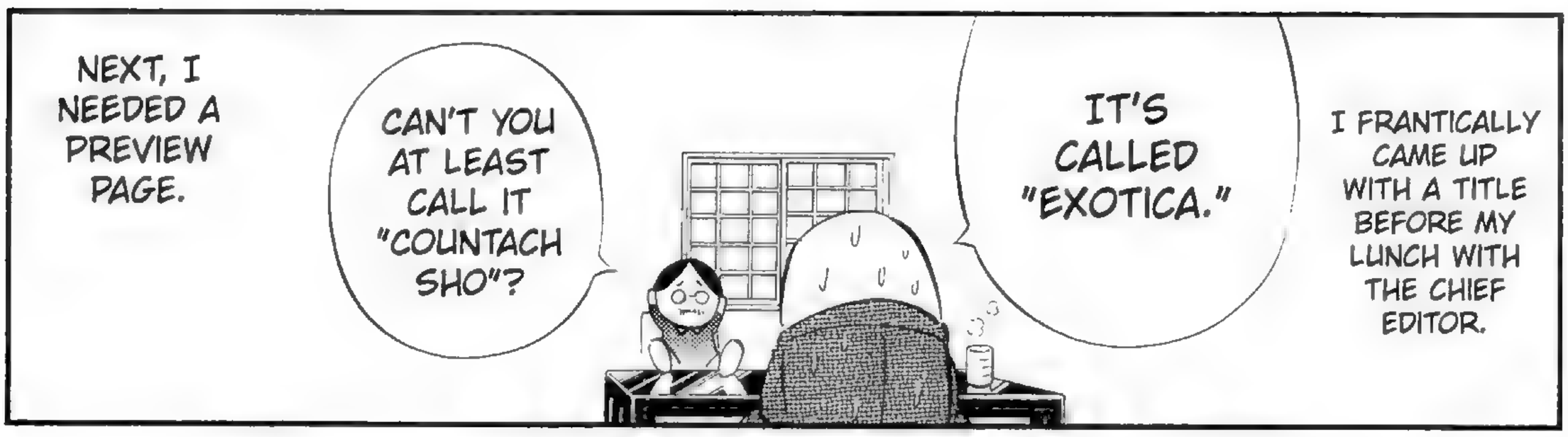


THE BATTLE OF THOSE THREE WEEKS...

I AGREED RIGHT AWAY.
OKAY.
WE WANT YOU TO DO A ONE-SHOT STORY.
MR. INAKI, OLD EDITOR
MEE-MEE-MEEP
IT ALL BEGAN SIX MONTHS AGO.

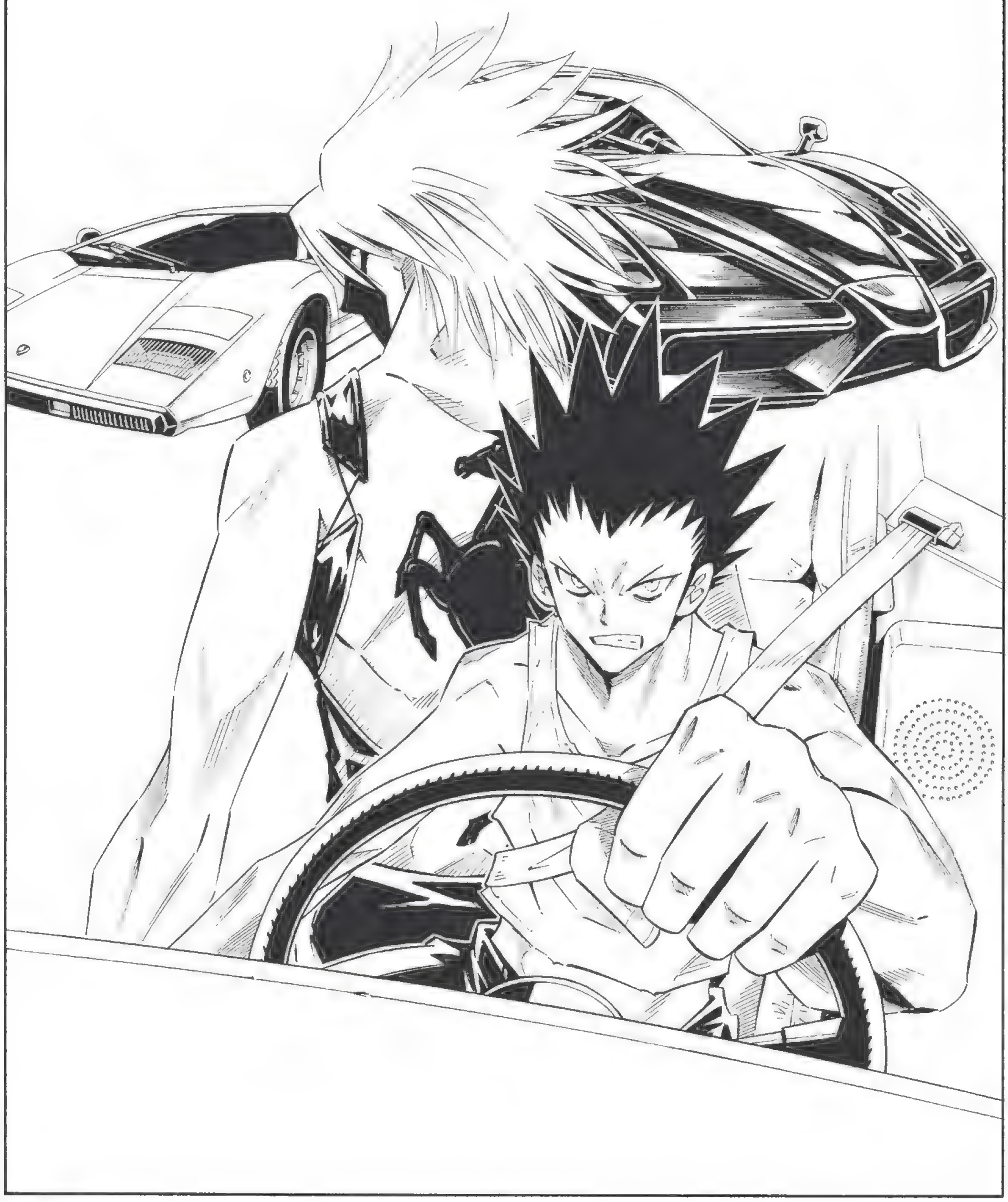
ALL OF A SUDDEN, I ONLY HAD THREE WEEKS TO FINISH IT.
MR. MAKOTO WATANABE, NEW EDITOR
EDITOR
HOW'S THE ONE-SHOT COMING?
BUT TIME FLIES...


BUT I DIDN'T HAVE ANY IDEAS YET.
I KEPT SAYING I WANTED TO DO A MANGA ABOUT SUPERCARS.

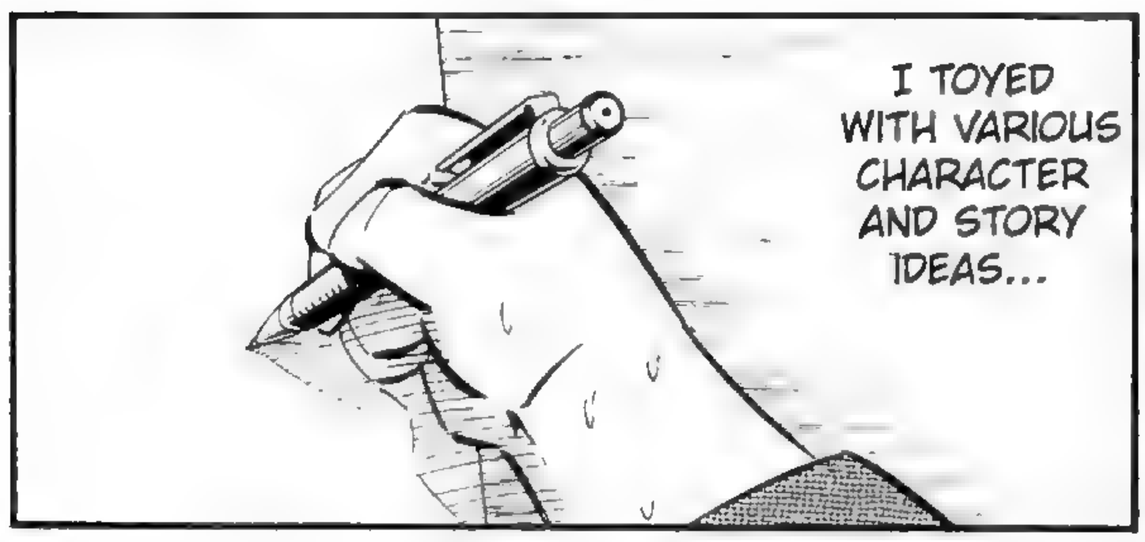

NEXT, I NEEDED A PREVIEW PAGE.
CAN'T YOU AT LEAST CALL IT "COUNTACH SHO"?
IT'S CALLED "EXOTICA."
I FRANTICALLY CAME UP WITH A TITLE BEFORE MY LUNCH WITH THE CHIEF EDITOR.

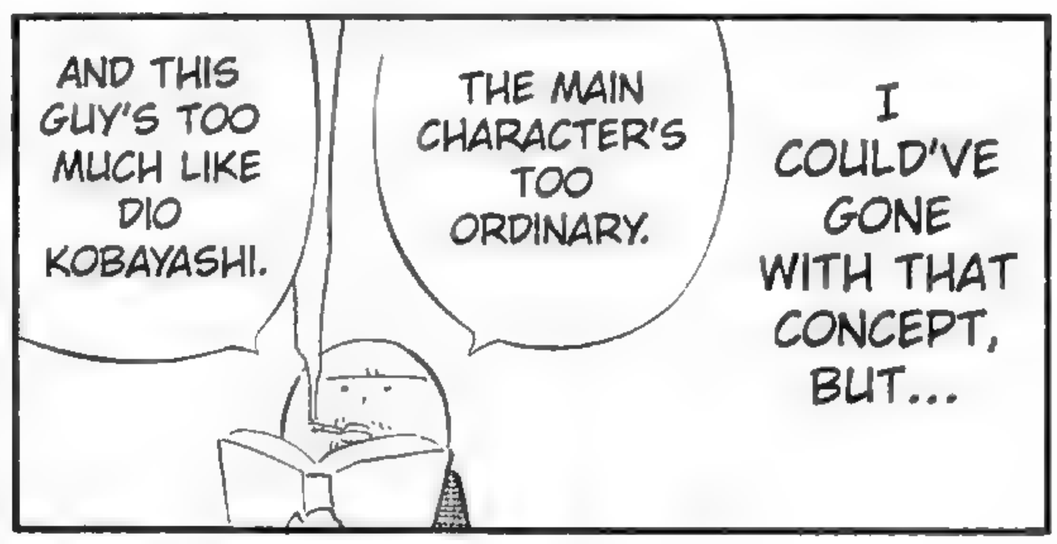
I DREW IT.
SO AS SOON AS SOMETHING POPPED INTO MY HEAD ...

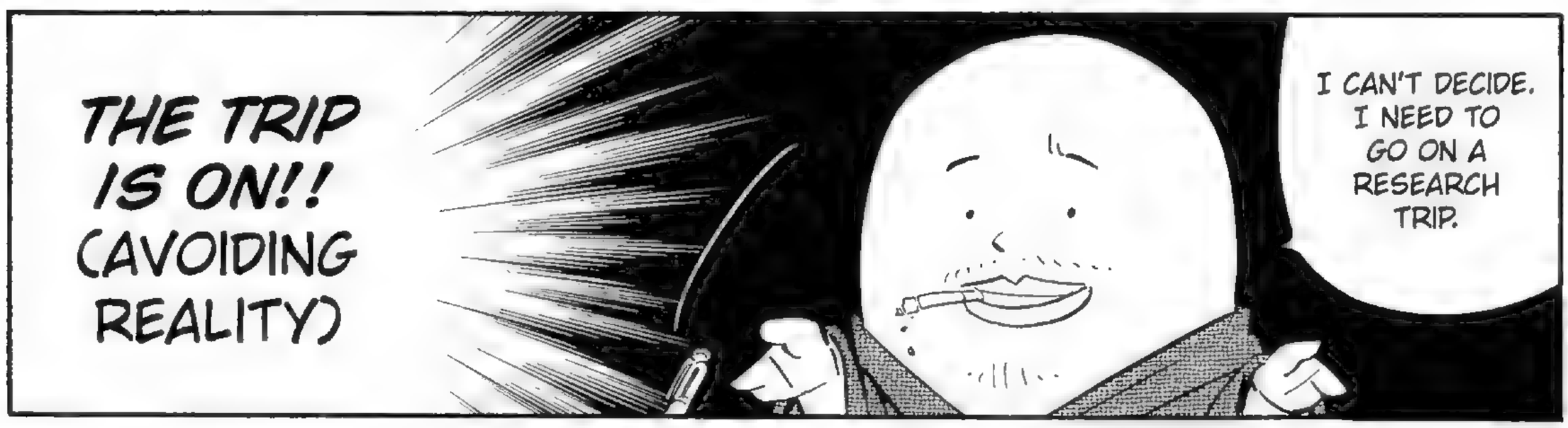
"EXOTICA" PREVIEW

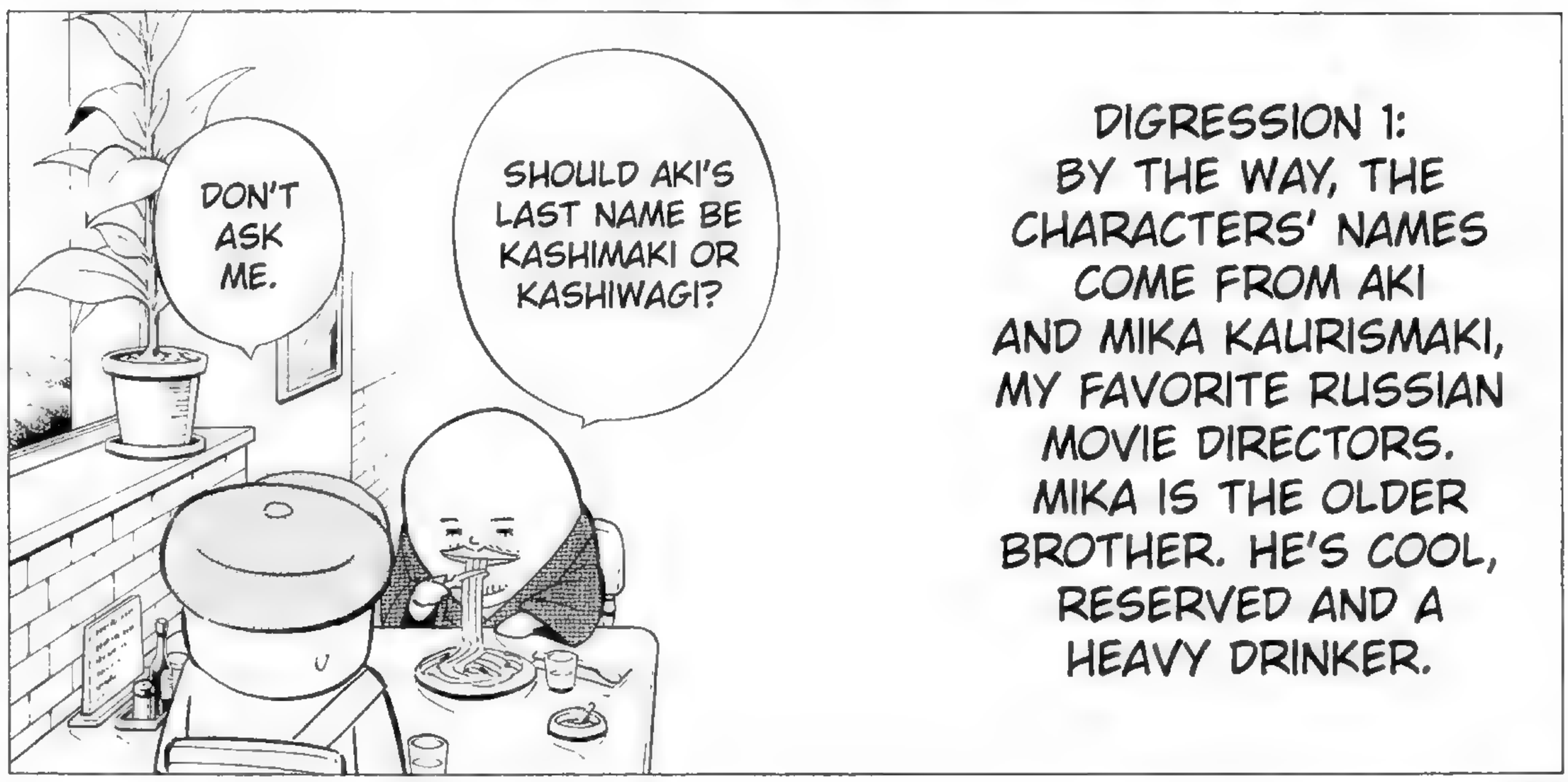


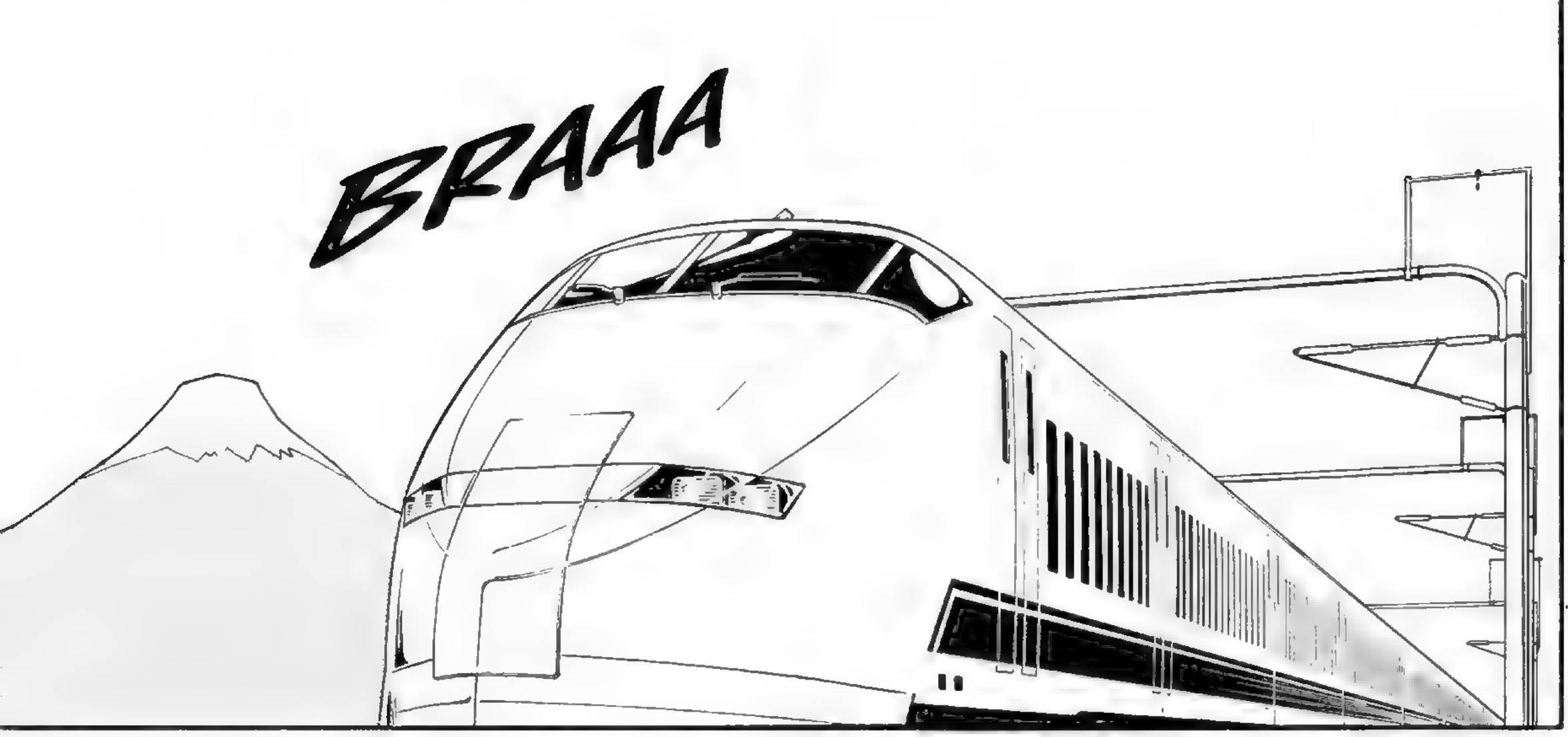
IT WAS TAKING ON A LIFE OF ITS OWN.

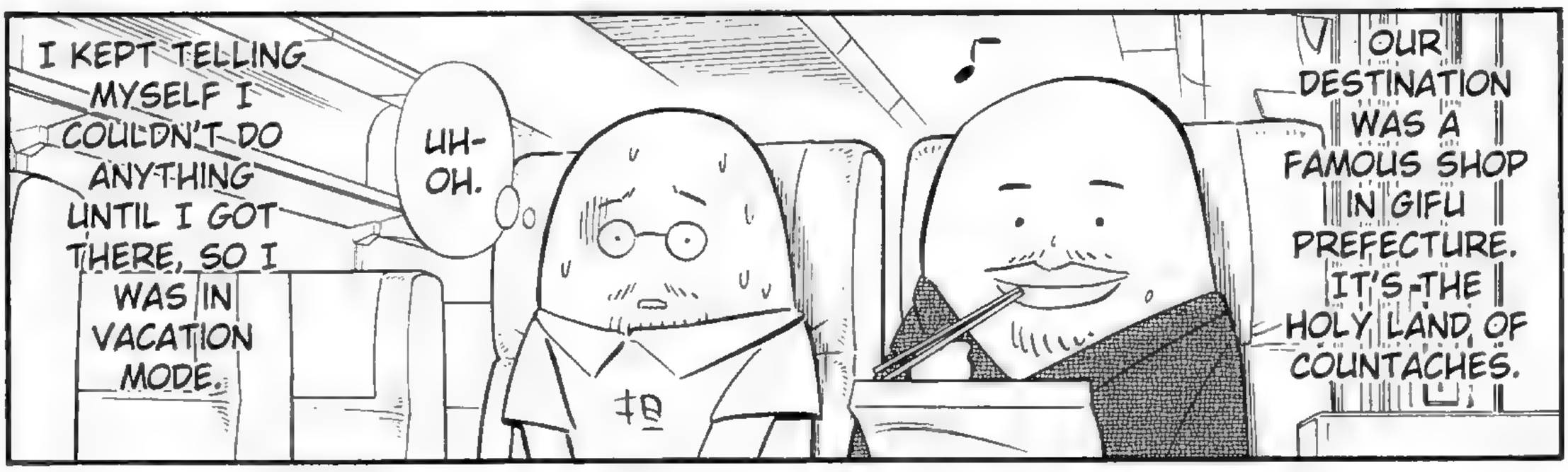

I TOYED WITH VARIOUS CHARACTER AND STORY IDEAS...

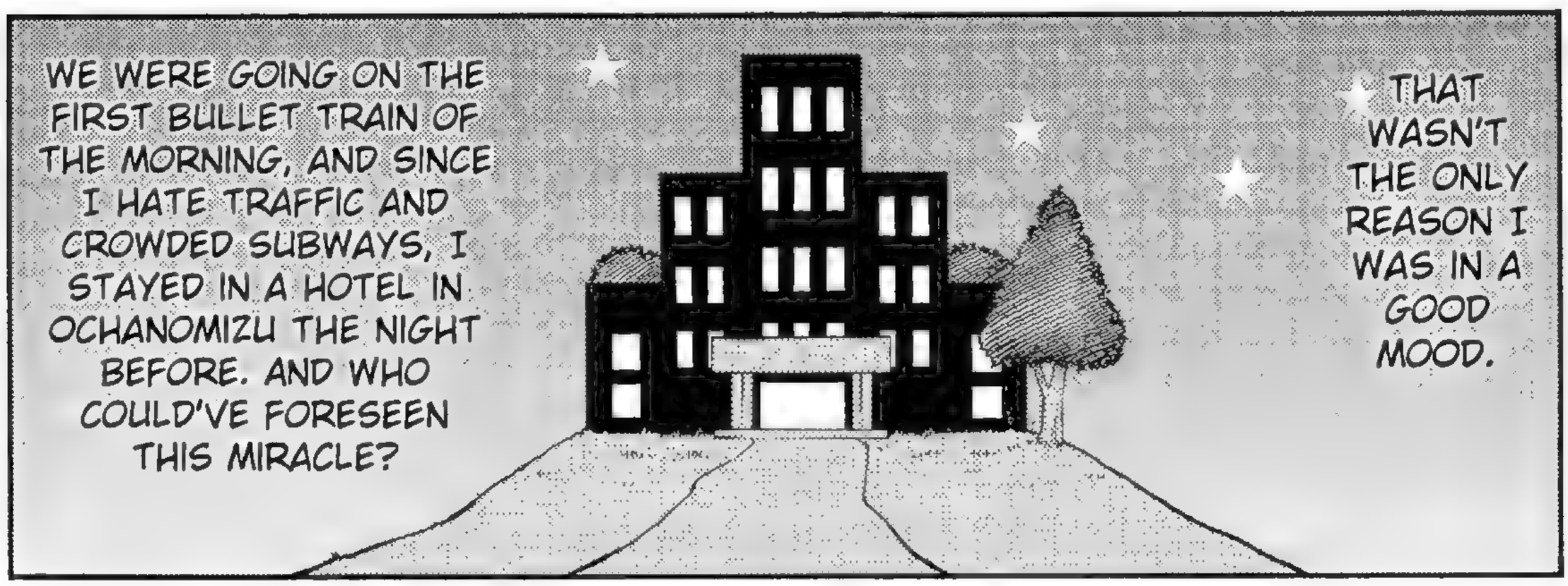

AND THIS GUY'S TOO MUCH LIKE DIO KOBAYASHI.
THE MAIN CHARACTER'S TOO ORDINARY.
I COULD'VE GONE WITH THAT CONCEPT, BUT...


THE TRIP IS ON!! (AVOIDING REALITY)
I CAN'T DECIDE. I NEED TO GO ON A RESEARCH TRIP.


DON'T ASK ME.
SHOULD AKI'S LAST NAME BE KASHIMAKI OR KASHIWAGI?
DIGRESSION 1: BY THE WAY, THE CHARACTERS' NAMES COME FROM AKI AND MIKA KAURISMAKI, MY FAVORITE RUSSIAN MOVIE DIRECTORS. MIKA IS THE OLDER BROTHER. HE'S COOL, RESERVED AND A HEAVY DRINKER.


BRAAA


I KEPT TELLING MYSELF I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL I GOT THERE, SO I WAS IN VACATION MODE.
UH-OH.
OUR DESTINATION WAS A FAMOUS SHOP IN GIFU PREFECTURE. IT'S THE HOLY LAND OF COUNTACHES.


WE WERE GOING ON THE FIRST BULLET TRAIN OF THE MORNING, AND SINCE I HATE TRAFFIC AND CROWDED SUBWAYS, I STAYED IN A HOTEL IN OCHANOMIZU THE NIGHT BEFORE. AND WHO COULD'VE FORESEEN THIS MIRACLE?
THAT WASN'T THE ONLY REASON I WAS IN A GOOD MOOD.

Cafe
AS I STEPPED OUT ONTO THE STREET THAT MORNING, HALF-ASLEEP, A YELLOW CAR CAME TOWARDS ME.

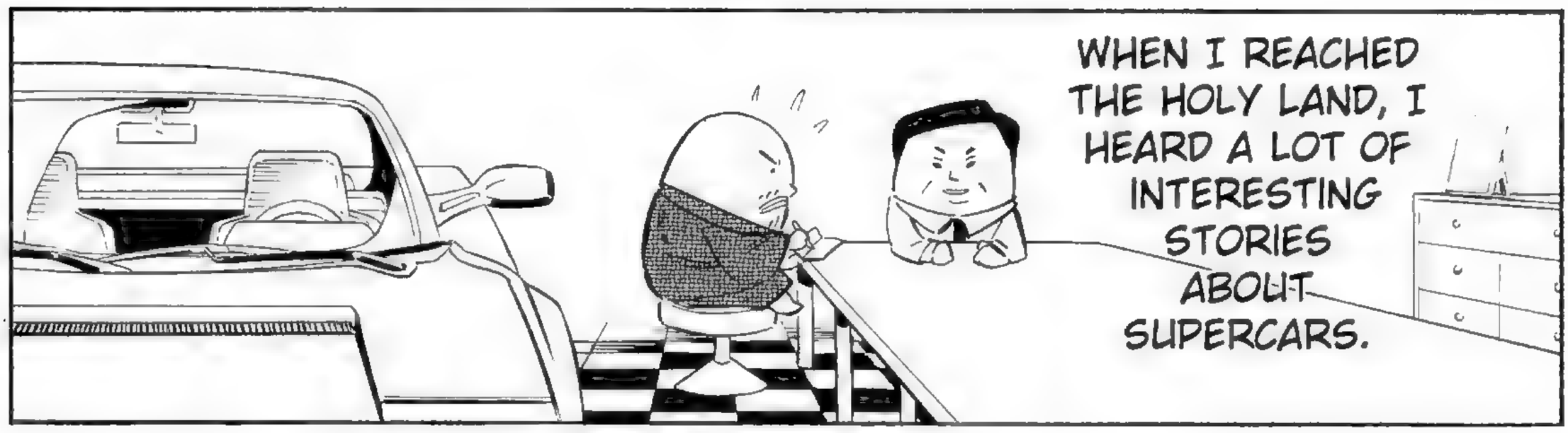
THE "EXOTICA" RIVAL CAR, ONE OF ONLY SEVEN IN ALL JAPAN. IT WAS THE FIRST CAR I SAW THAT DAY.
A FERRARI ENZO.
VROOM

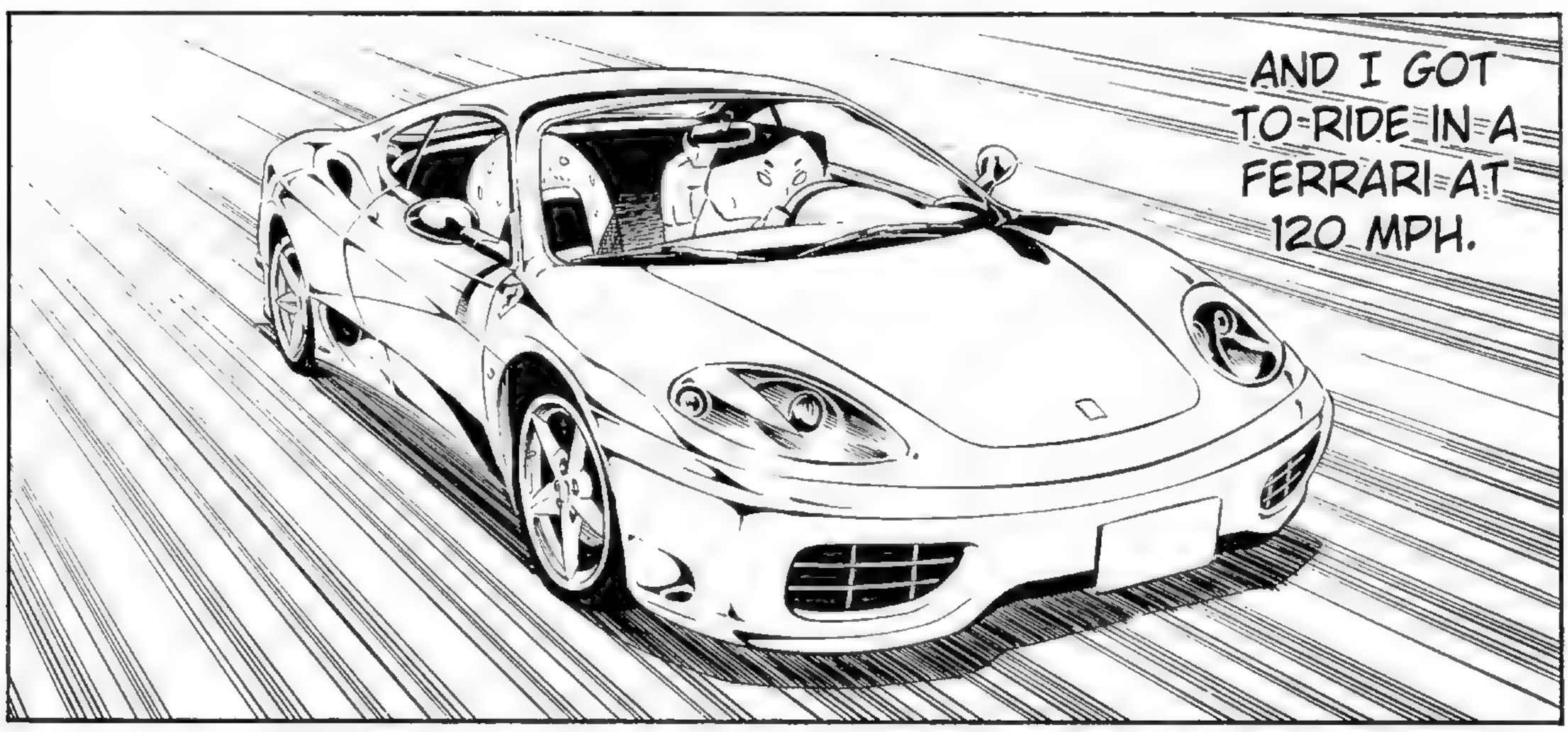
...THAT I HAD TO DO THIS MANGA!
SOB
SOB
SOB
GOD HAD SENT ME A SIGN...

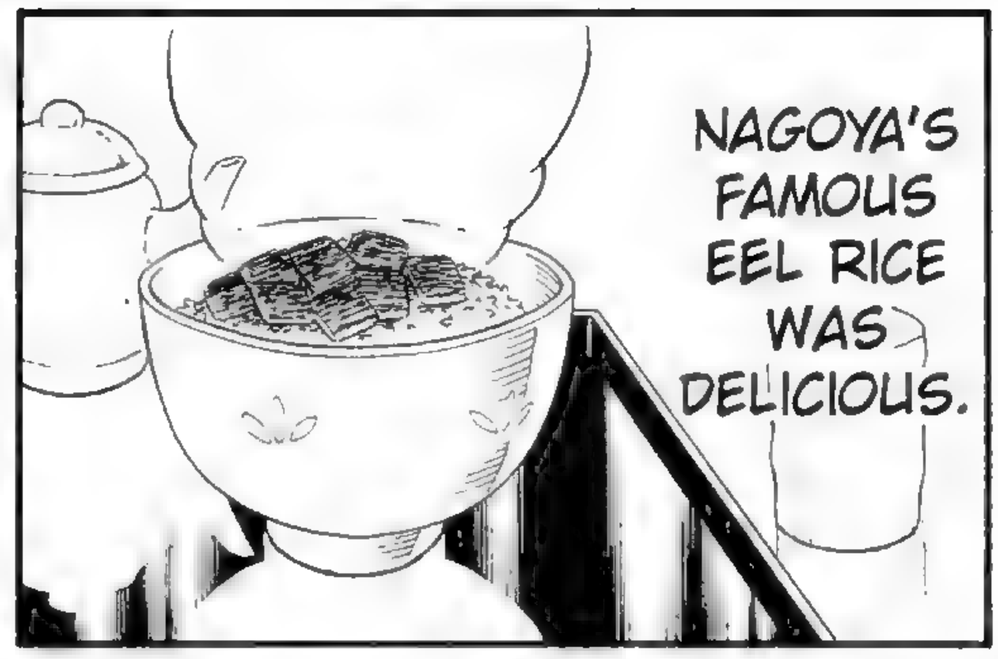
I GOT GOOSE-BUMPS.

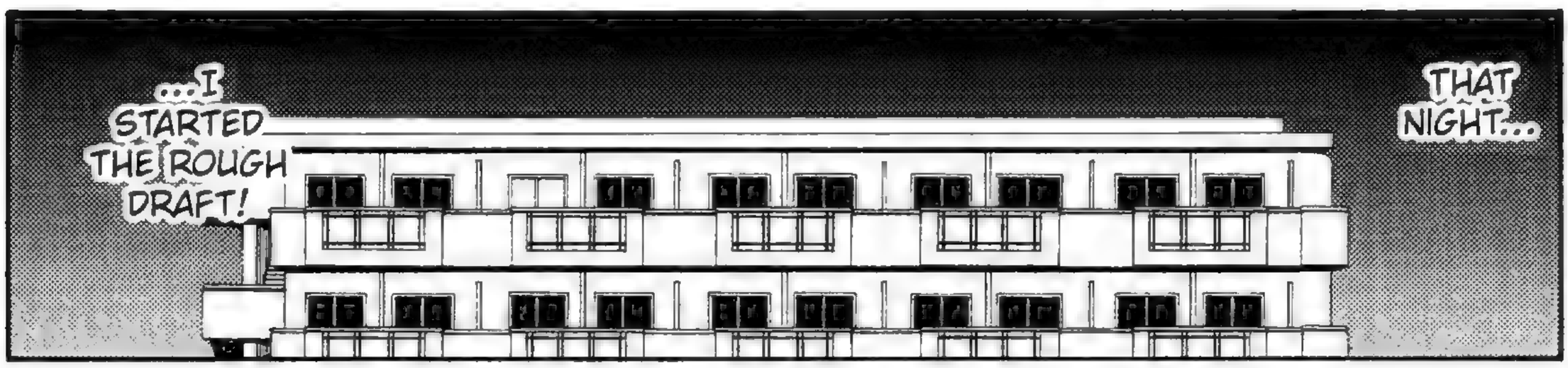
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

IT'S EASY TO SEE NOW THAT I WAS WRONG.
BRAAA
LET'S DO IT!


WHEN I REACHED THE HOLY LAND, I HEARD A LOT OF INTERESTING STORIES ABOUT SUPERCARS.

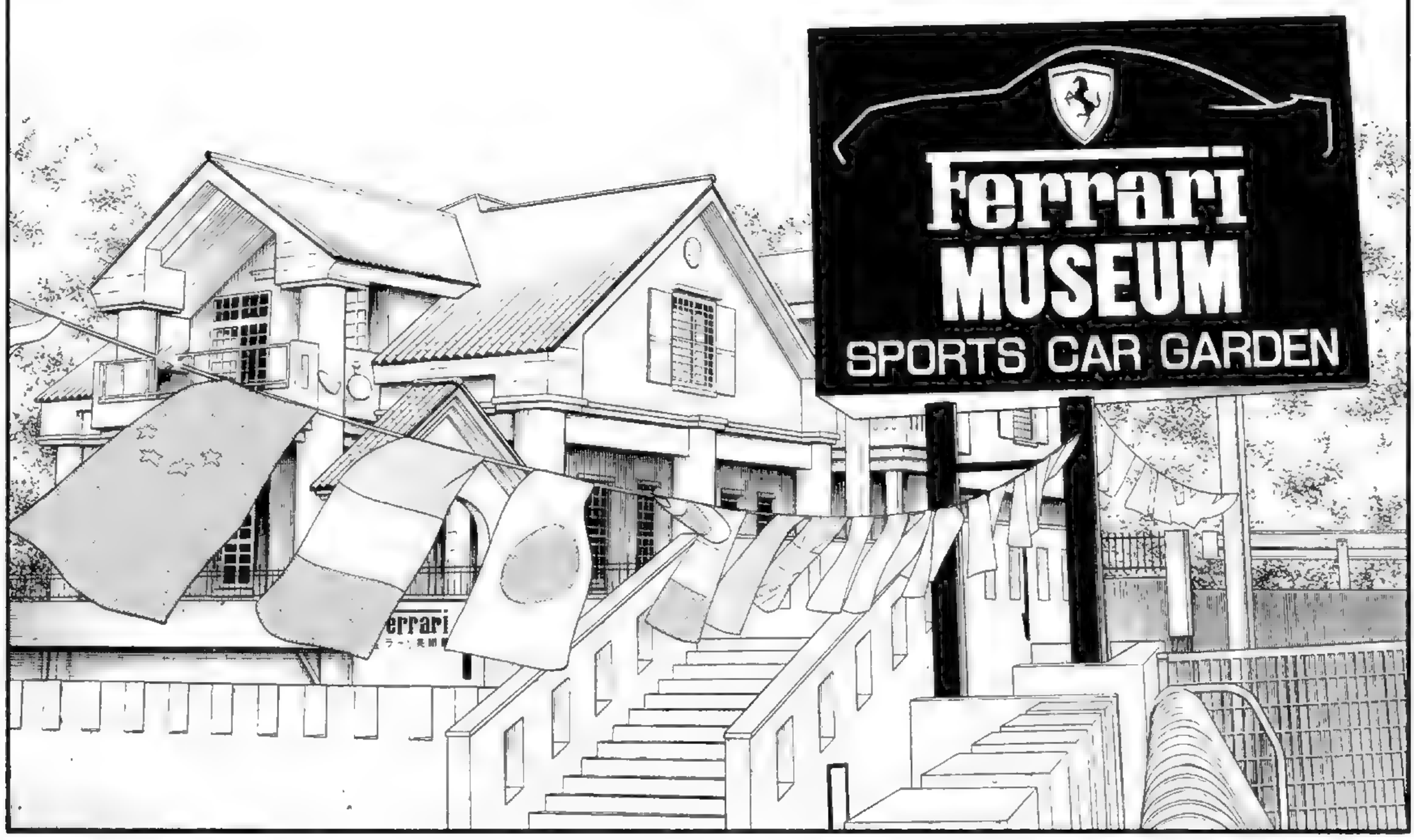

AND I GOT TO RIDE IN A FERRARI AT 120 MPH.

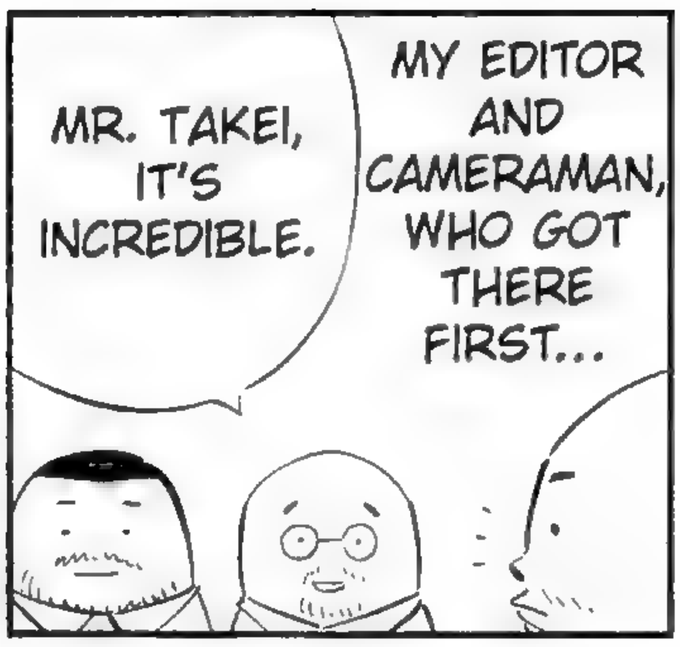


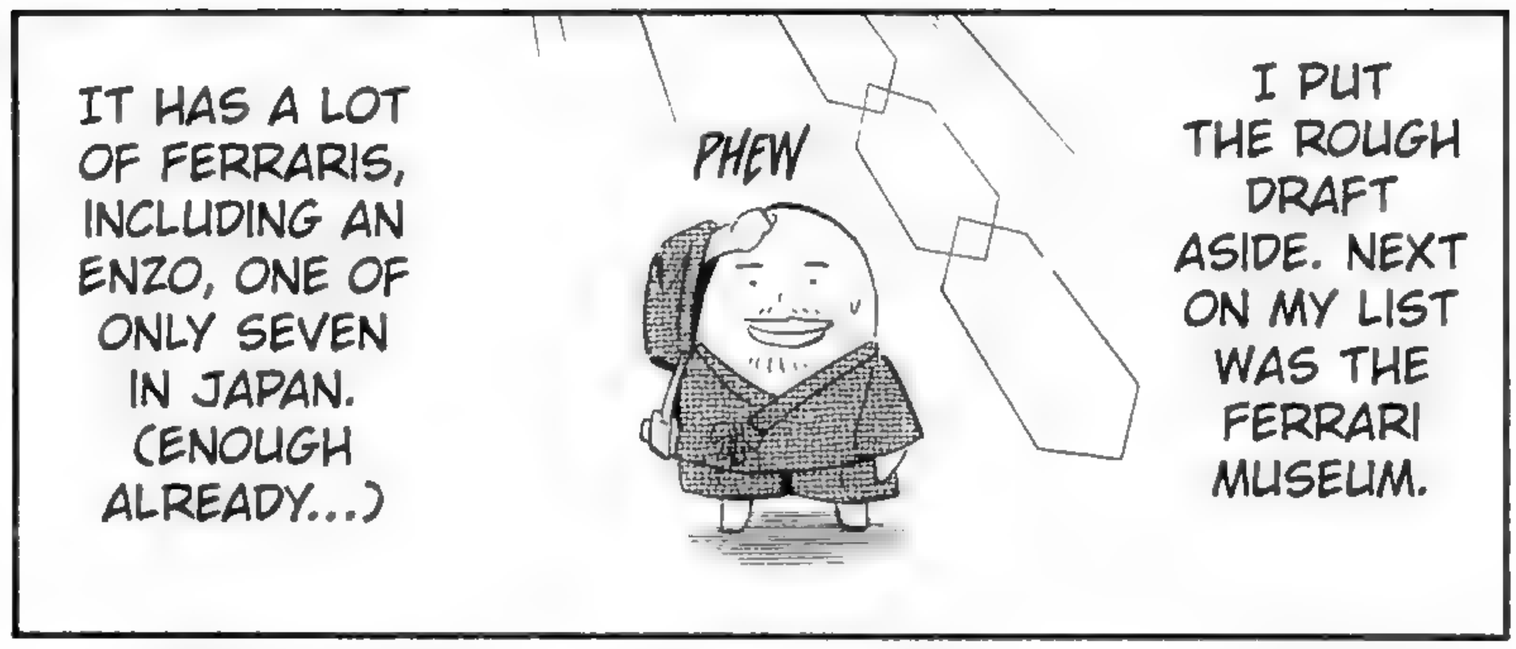


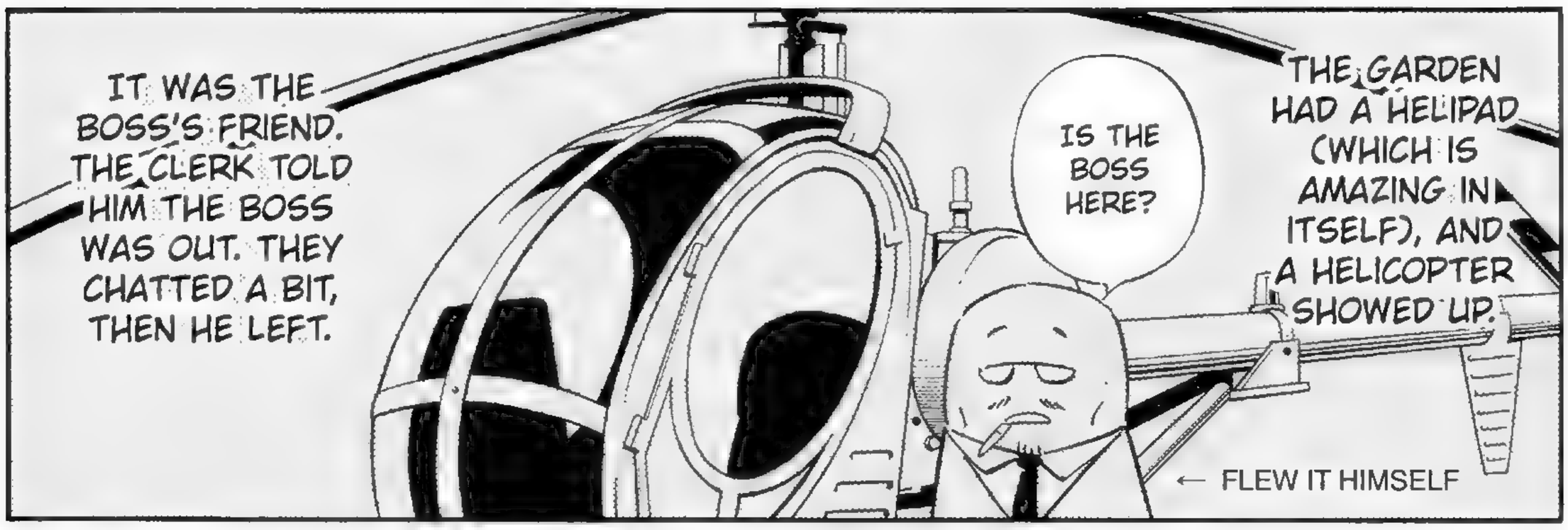
THE SECOND DAY...

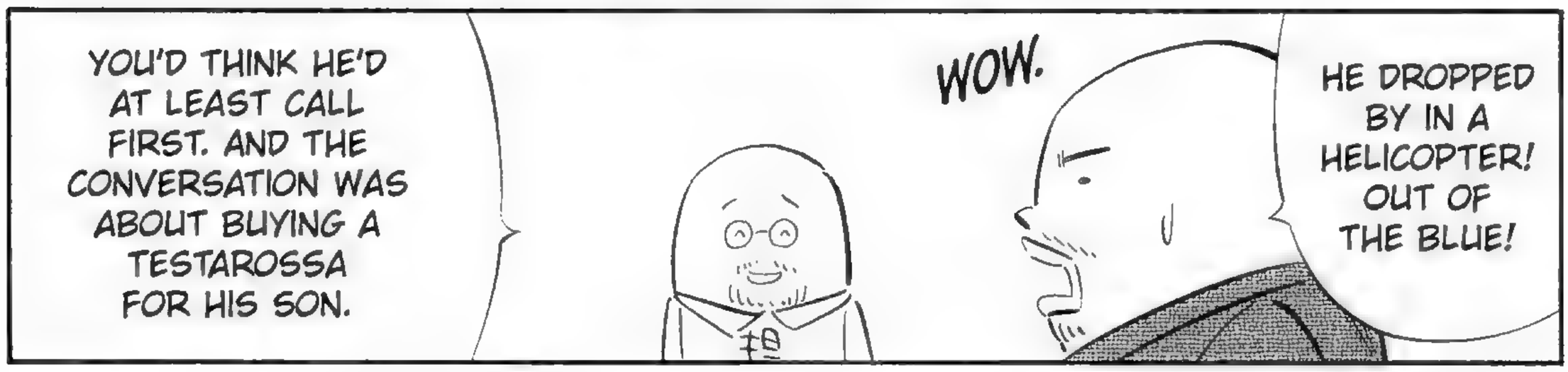
...IN HAKONE.

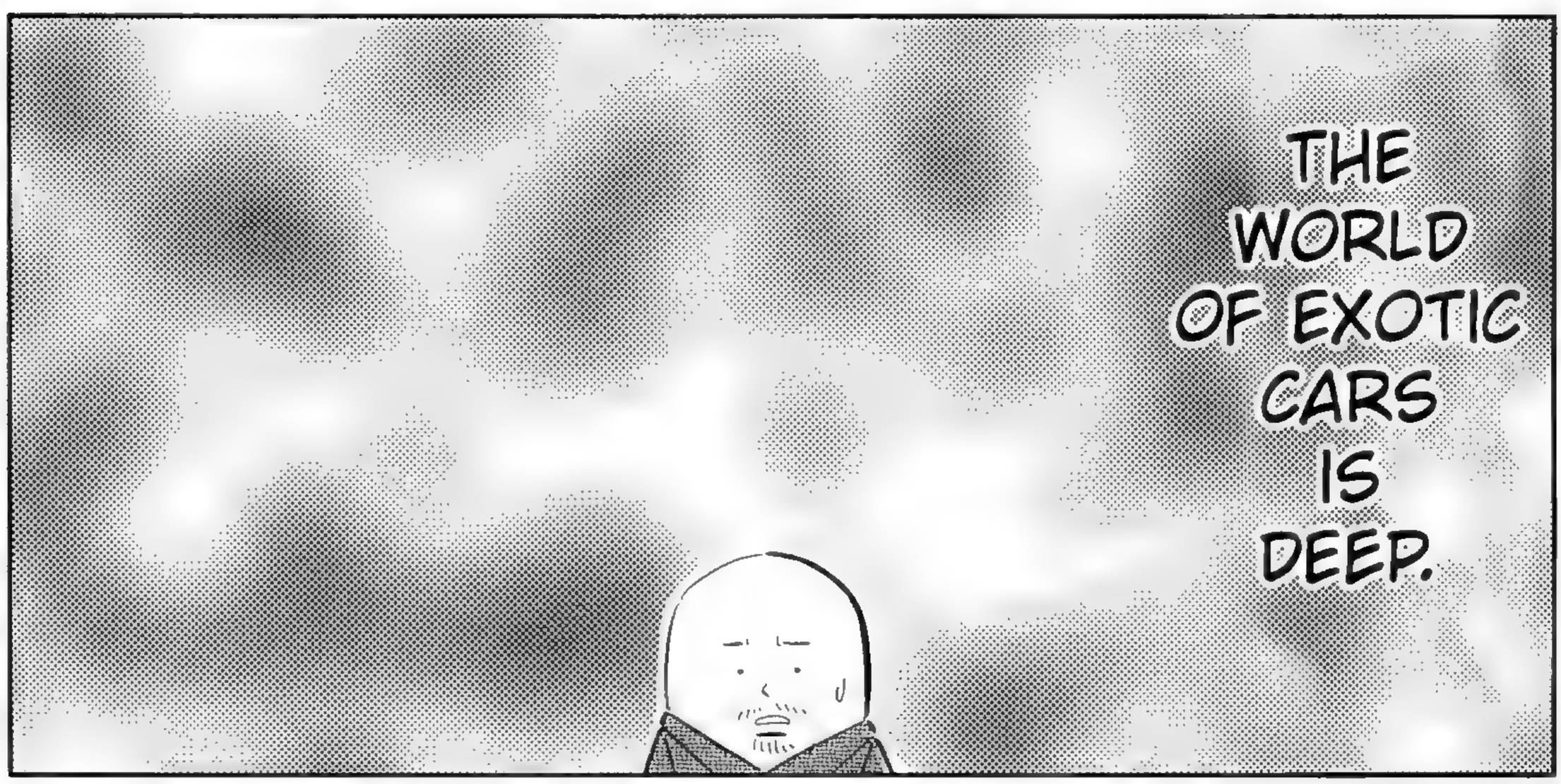


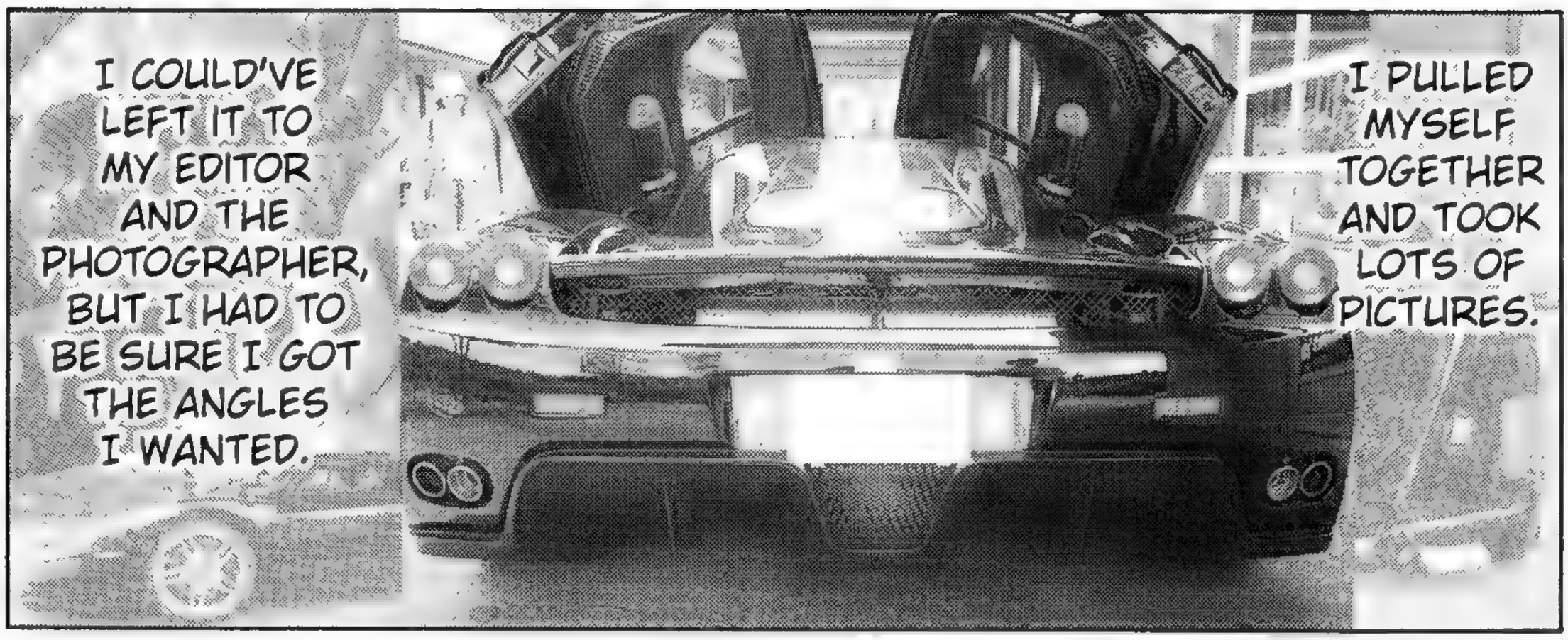

MR. TAKEI, IT'S INCREDIBLE.
MY EDITOR AND CAMERAMAN, WHO GOT THERE FIRST...

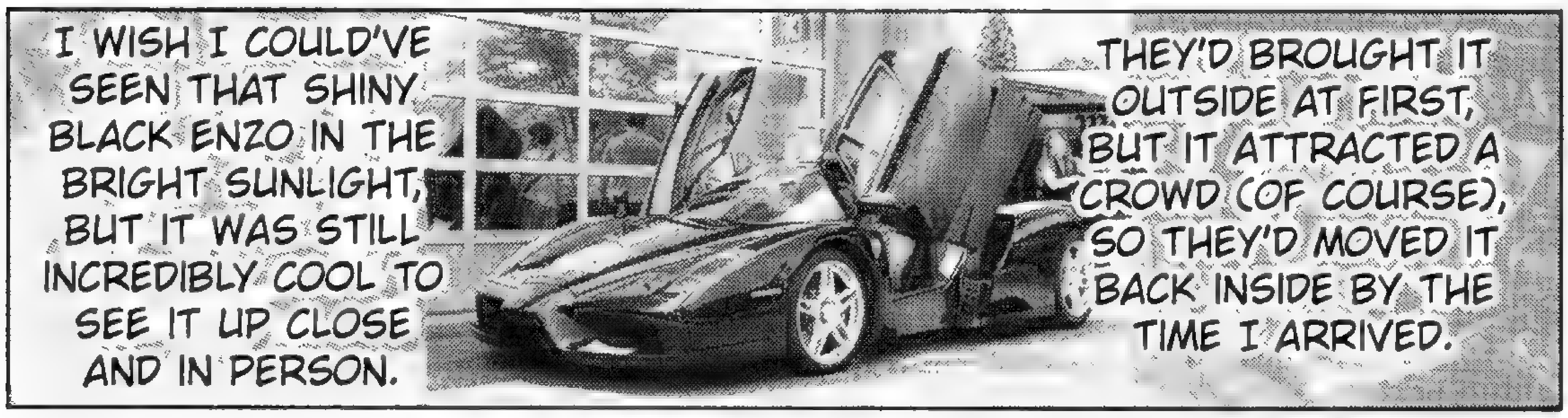

IT HAS A LOT OF FERRARIS, INCLUDING AN ENZO, ONE OF ONLY SEVEN IN JAPAN. (ENOUGH ALREADY...)
PHEW
I PUT THE ROUGH DRAFT ASIDE. NEXT ON MY LIST WAS THE FERRARI MUSEUM.

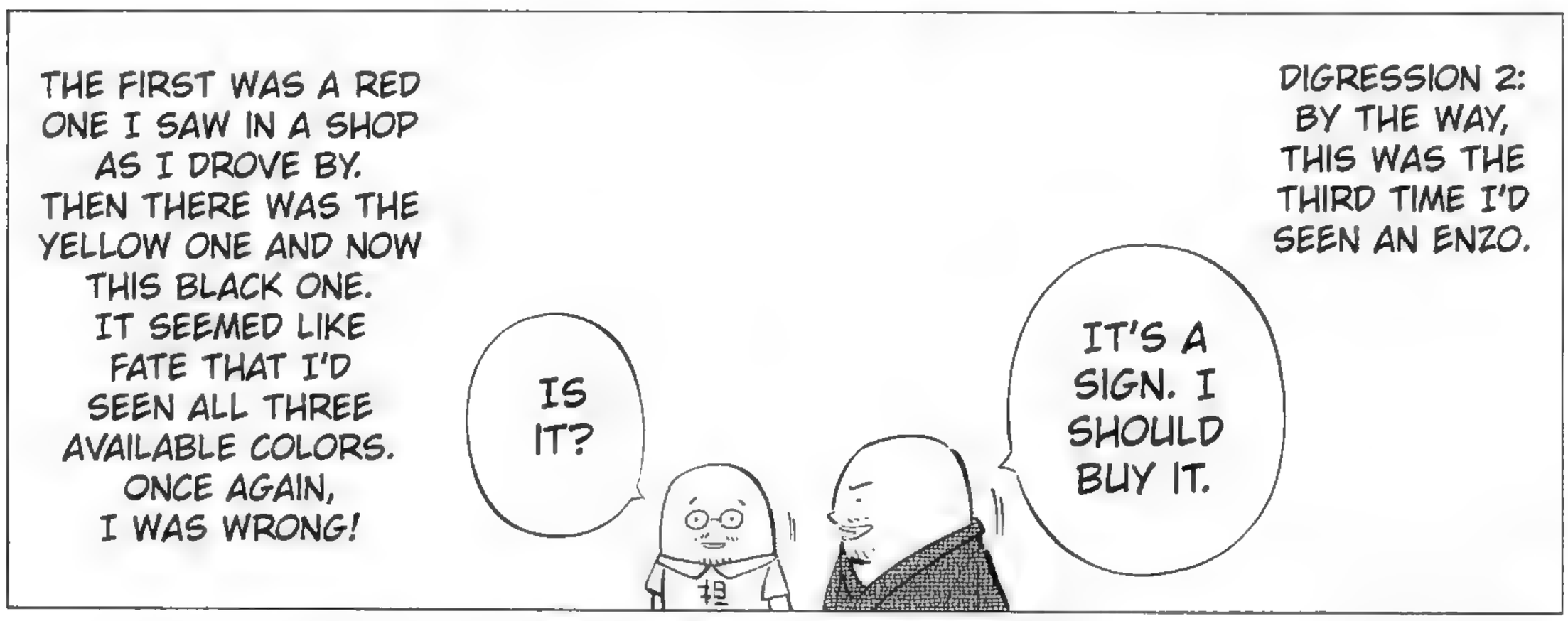

IT WAS THE BOSS'S FRIEND. THE CLERK TOLD HIM THE BOSS WAS OUT. THEY CHATTED A BIT, THEN HE LEFT.
IS THE BOSS HERE?
THE GARDEN HAD A HELIPAD (WHICH IS AMAZING IN ITSELF), AND A HELICOPTER SHOWED UP.
← FLEW IT HIMSELF

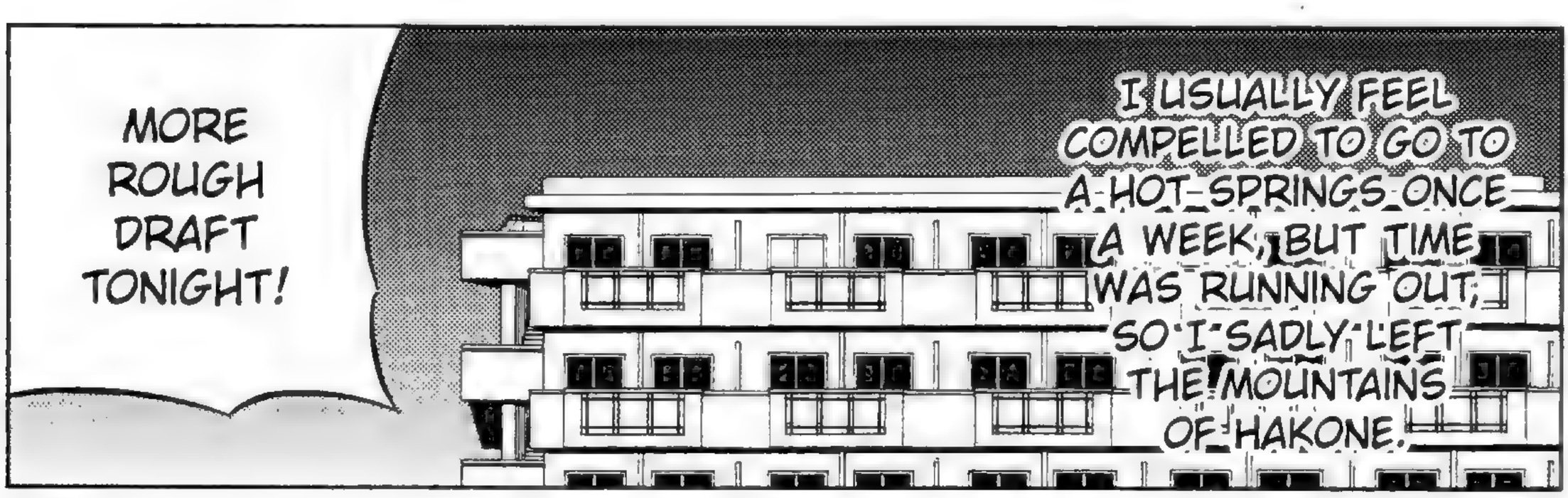

YOU'D THINK HE'D AT LEAST CALL FIRST. AND THE CONVERSATION WAS ABOUT BUYING A TESTAROSSA FOR HIS SON.
WOW.
HE DROPPED BY IN A HELICOPTER! OUT OF THE BLUE!

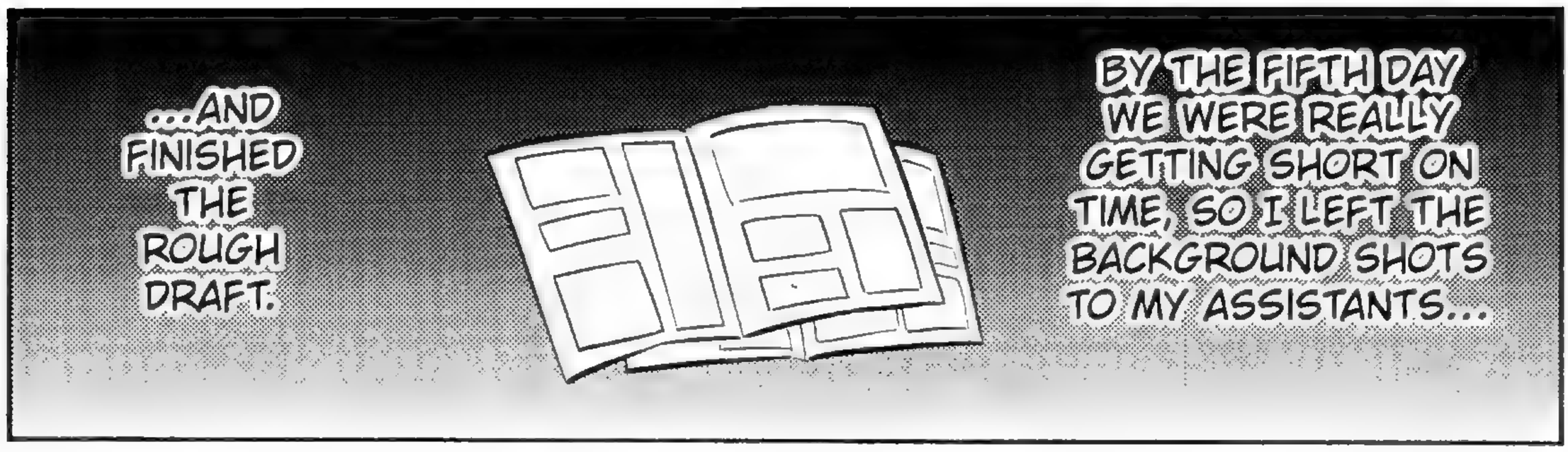

THE WORLD OF EXOTIC CARS IS DEEP.

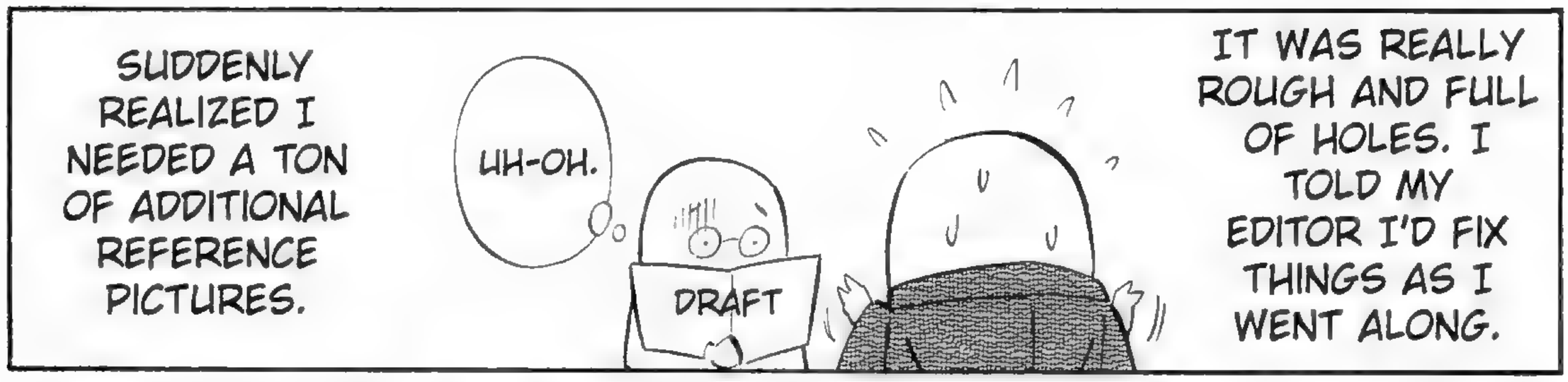

I COULD'VE LEFT IT TO MY EDITOR AND THE PHOTOGRAPHER, BUT I HAD TO BE SURE I GOT THE ANGLES I WANTED.
I PULLED MYSELF TOGETHER AND TOOK LOTS OF PICTURES.


I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN THAT SHINY BLACK ENZO IN THE BRIGHT SUNLIGHT, BUT IT WAS STILL INCREDIBLY COOL TO SEE IT UP CLOSE AND IN PERSON.
THEY'D BROUGHT IT OUTSIDE AT FIRST, BUT IT ATTRACTED A CROWD (OF COURSE), SO THEY'D MOVED IT BACK INSIDE BY THE TIME I ARRIVED.

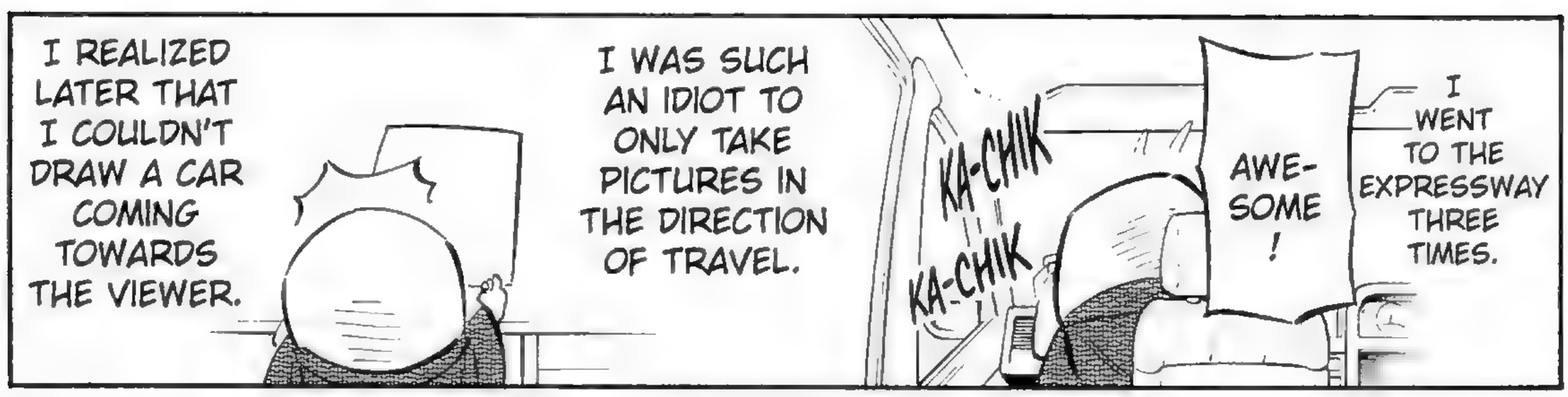

THE FIRST WAS A RED ONE I SAW IN A SHOP AS I DROVE BY. THEN THERE WAS THE YELLOW ONE AND NOW THIS BLACK ONE. IT SEEMED LIKE FATE THAT I'D SEEN ALL THREE AVAILABLE COLORS. ONCE AGAIN, I WAS WRONG!
DIGRESSION 2: BY THE WAY, THIS WAS THE THIRD TIME I'D SEEN AN ENZO.
IS IT?
IT'S A SIGN. I SHOULD BUY IT.

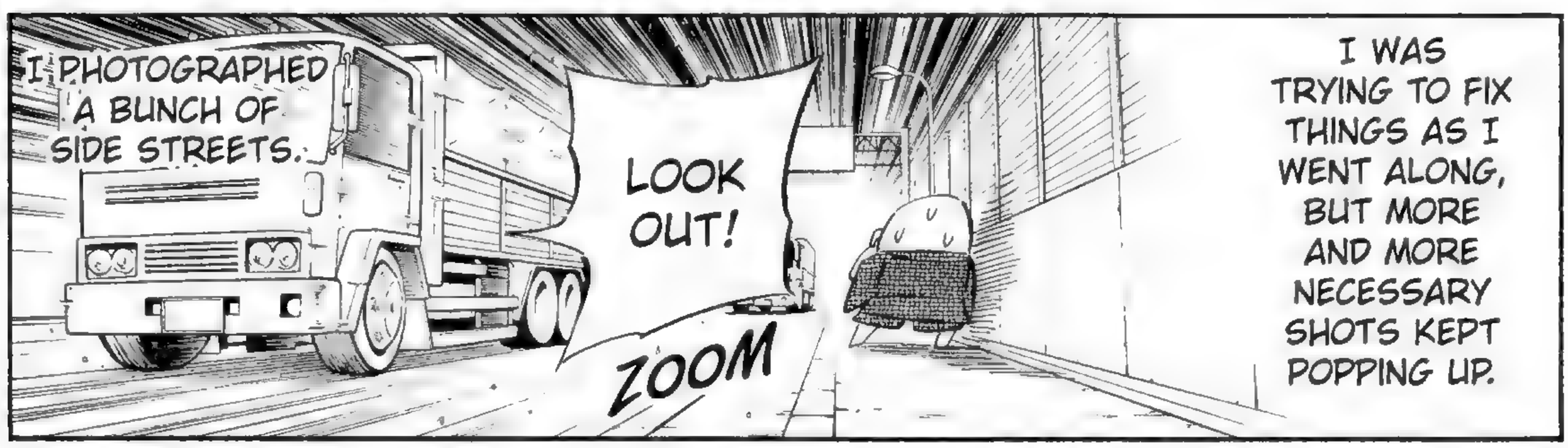

MORE ROUGH DRAFT TONIGHT!
I USUALLY FEEL COMPELLED TO GO TO A HOT-SPRINGS ONCE A WEEK, BUT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT, SO I SADLY LEFT THE MOUNTAINS OF HAKONE.


...AND FINISHED THE ROUGH DRAFT.
BY THE FIFTH DAY WE WERE REALLY GETTING SHORT ON TIME, SO I LEFT THE BACKGROUND SHOTS TO MY ASSISTANTS...

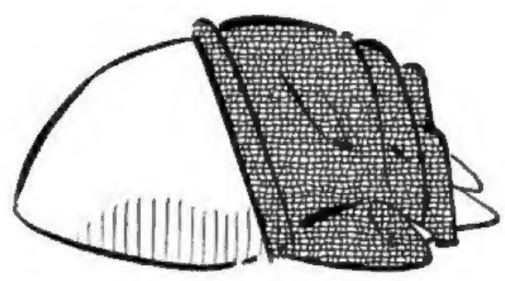

SUDDENLY REALIZED I NEEDED A TON OF ADDITIONAL REFERENCE PICTURES.
UH-OH.
DRAFT
IT WAS REALLY ROUGH AND FULL OF HOLES. I TOLD MY EDITOR I'D FIX THINGS AS I WENT ALONG.

SINCE THE STORY TAKES PLACE IN SUMMER, I THOUGHT THE AREA AROUND YOKOTA BASE WOULD BE GOOD. I WENT UP TO FUSSA TWICE.
I NEEDED A GARAGE FOR HELL MOTORS. I ONLY HAD A VAGUE IMAGE IN MY MIND, SO I LOOKED AROUND FOR ONE.


I REALIZED LATER THAT I COULDN'T DRAW A CAR COMING TOWARDS THE VIEWER.
I WAS SUCH AN IDIOT TO ONLY TAKE PICTURES IN THE DIRECTION OF TRAVEL.
KA-CHIK
KA-CHIK
AWE-SOME!
I WENT TO THE EXPRESSWAY THREE TIMES.

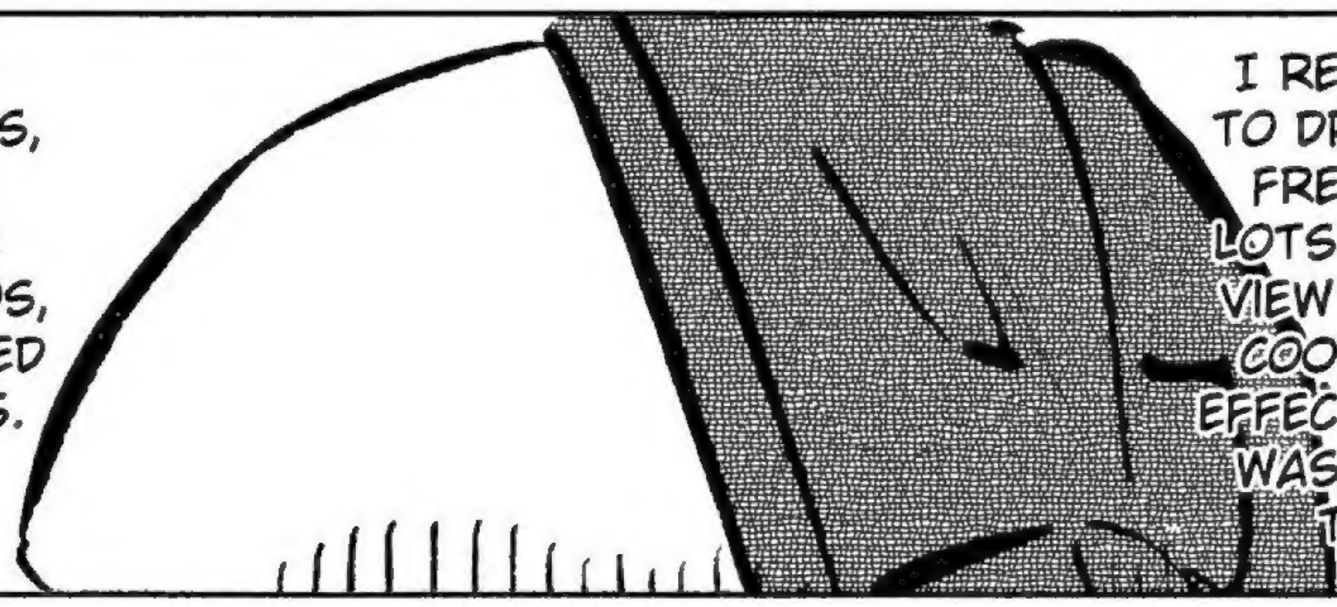

I PHOTOGRAPHED A BUNCH OF SIDE STREETS.
LOOK OUT!
ZOOM
I WAS TRYING TO FIX THINGS AS I WENT ALONG, BUT MORE AND MORE NECESSARY SHOTS KEPT POPPING UP.

I DECIDED TO TRACE THE CARS AND BACKGROUNDS FROM PICTURES TO ASSURE ACCURACY, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY ***TO MAKE SURE I FINISHED ON TIME.***



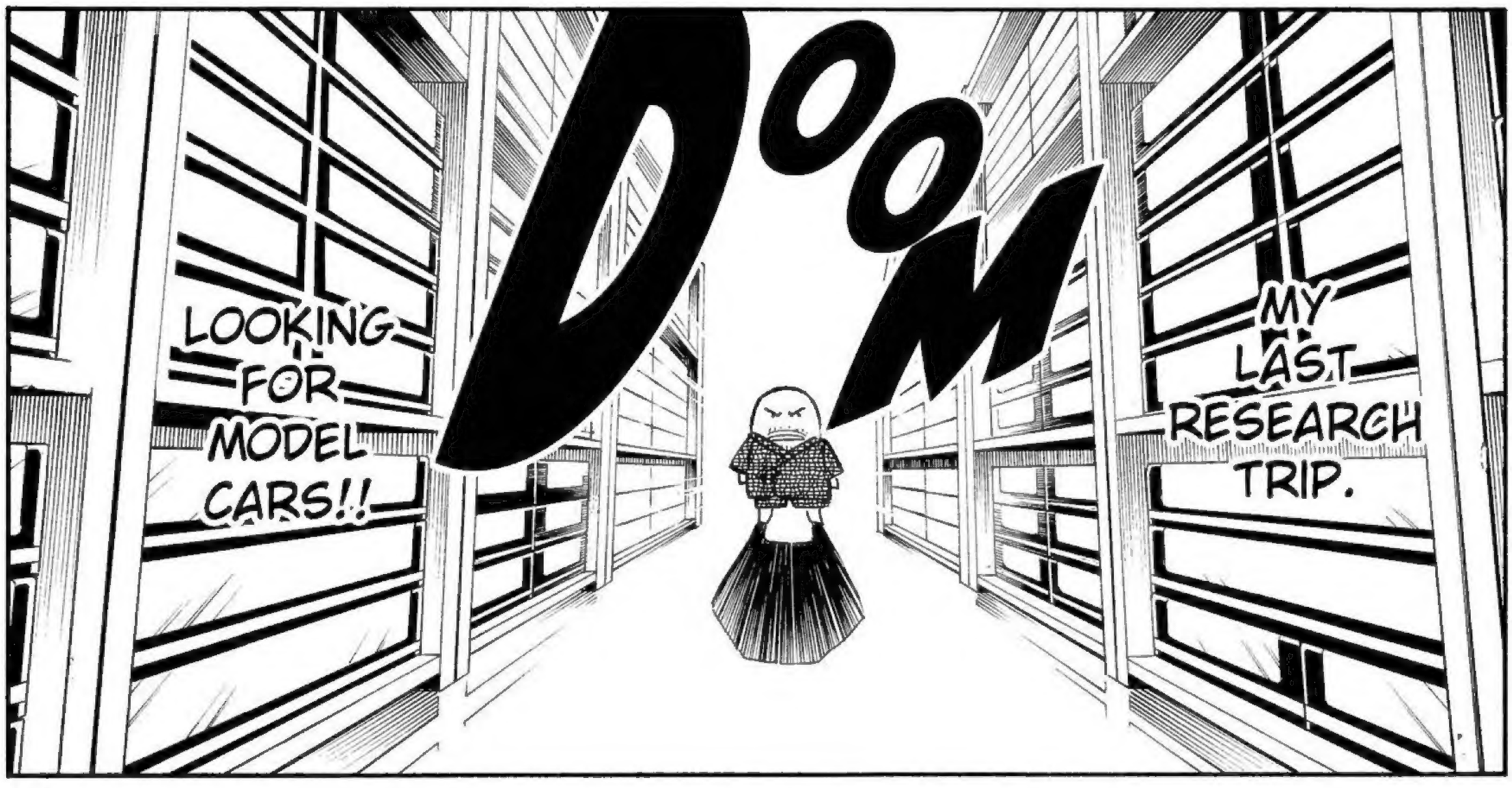
THE SHORTNESS OF TIME COMPLICATED EVERYTHING. ONE PROBLEM LED TO ANOTHER.

LEAVING THINGS TO MY ASSISTANTS, I WENT OUT TO GET SOME MORE REFERENCE PHOTOS, BUT SOON REALIZED IT WAS HOPELESS.

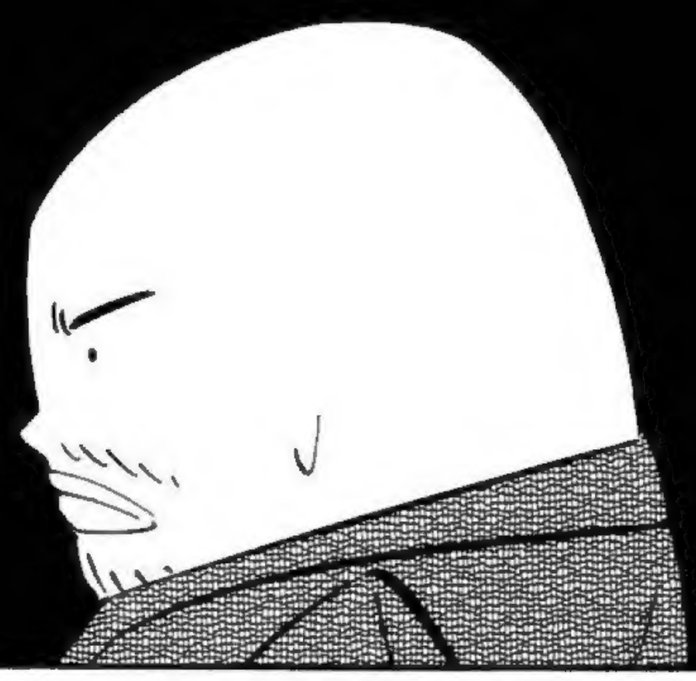


I REALLY WANTED TO DRAW THE CARS FREEHAND FROM LOTS OF POINTS OF VIEW AND DO SOME COOL DISTORTION EFFECTS, BUT THERE WAS NO TIME FOR THAT NOW.

SO I MADE DO WITH MODEL CARS.



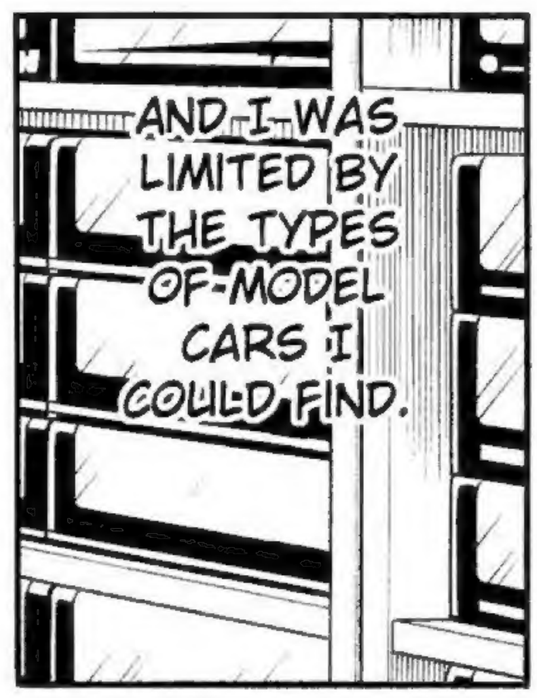
I PLACED THE CARS NEXT TO EACH OTHER TO MAKE IT EASIER TO COMPOSE THE RACING SCENES. I THOUGHT I COULD SECRETLY ADD THEM TO MY COLLECTION AFTERWARDS, BUT THEY WERE TOO BEATEN UP BY THE END.



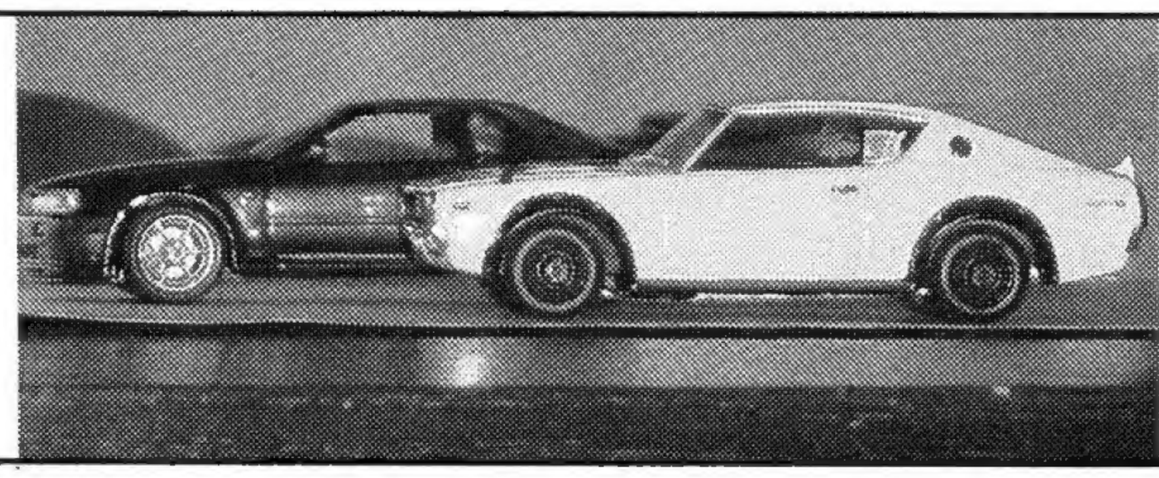
NOT BAD.

THEY WEREN'T CHOSEN AT RANDOM.

I HAD TO COME UP WITH IDEAS ON THE SPOT.

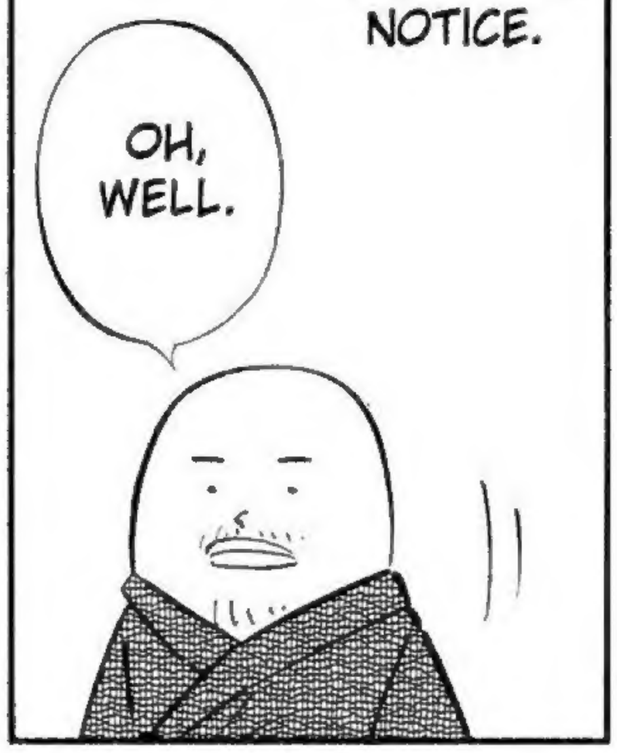


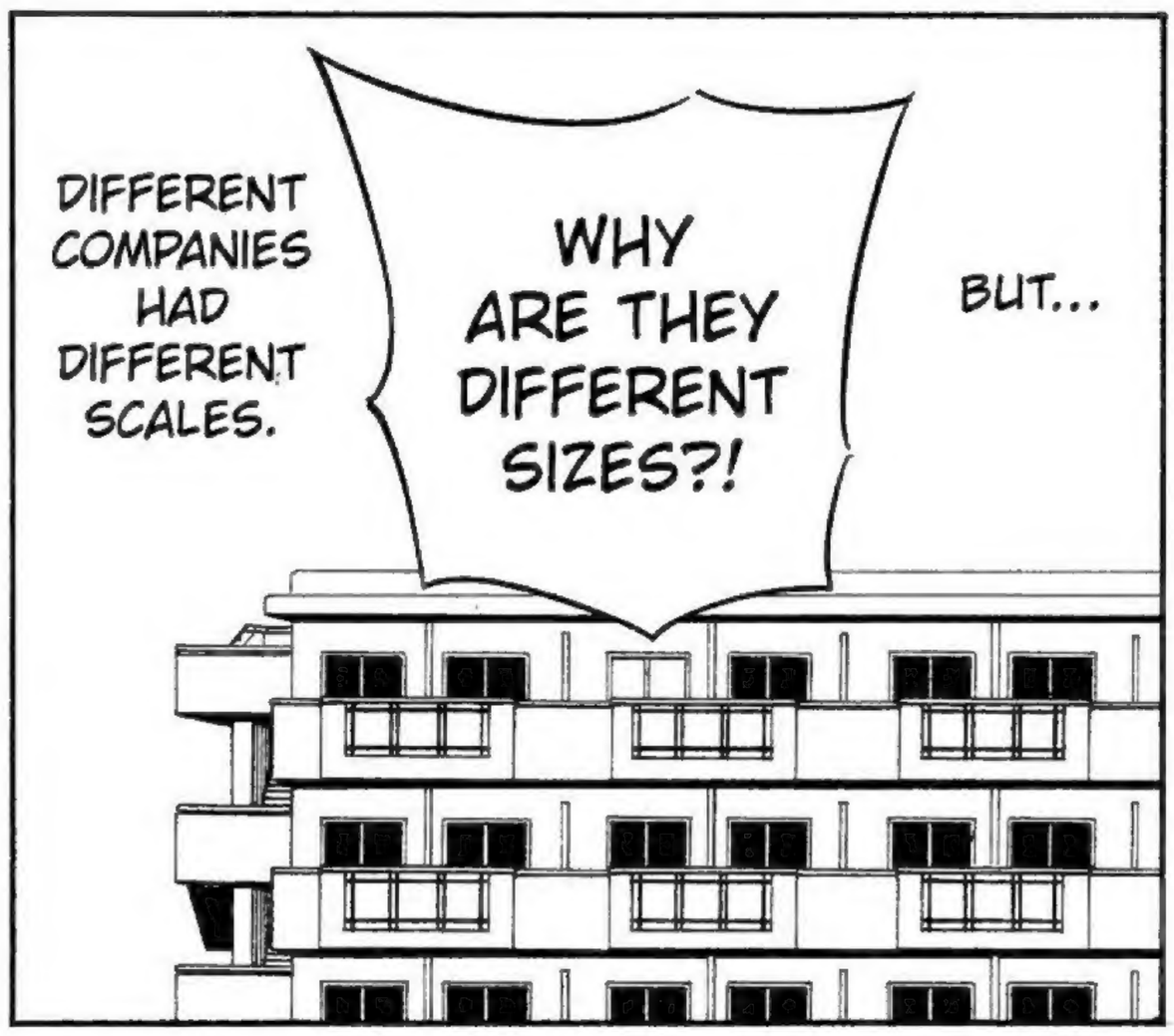
I RELUCTANTLY SETTLED ON A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN AN OLD GT-R AND A NEWER ONE.

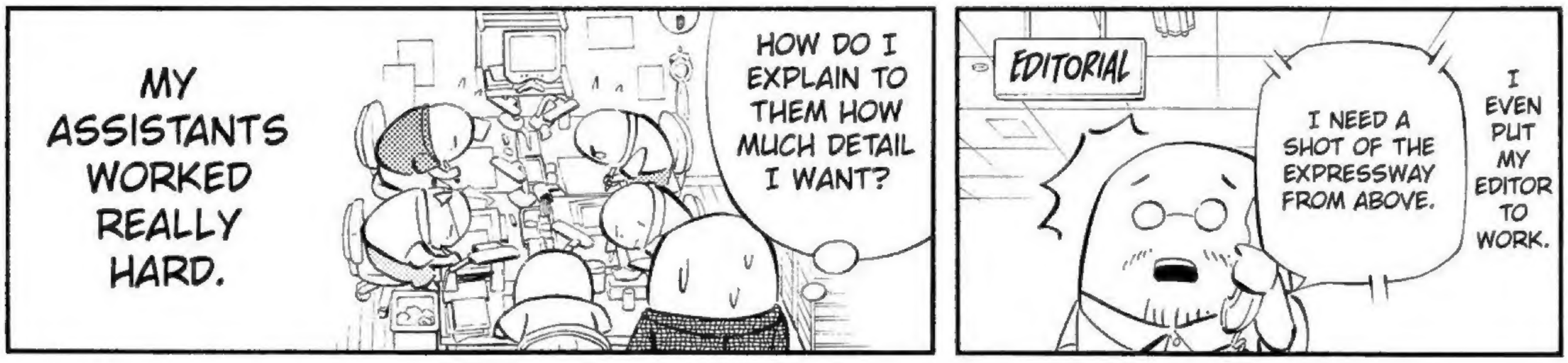


I CAREFULLY SELECTED CARS FROM THE AVAILABLE STOCK THAT I THOUGHT WOULD BE RIGHT FOR THE STORY.

AND THE VICIOUS CYCLE CONTINUED.







THREE WEEKS OF HARD WORK...

THANKS SO MUCH TO EVERYBODY WHO HELPED, AND TO MY READERS.

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